January 1956 · 25c In Canada 30c

Better Homes and Gardens

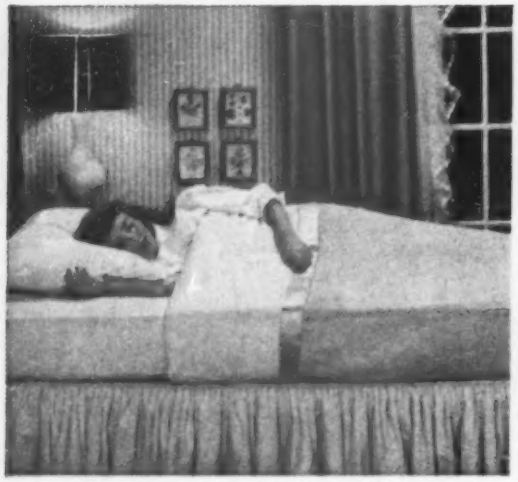
$25,000 contest announcement, page 52

Your home improvement project can win

Party Ideas–holidays through January

Serving more than 4,000,000 families

How to get the most for your money when you shop for sheets



Ask for percale that's Combspun!

The word *Combspun* is your assurance you are getting smoother, sturdier, more luxurious percales. Yet they cost only pennies more than muslin. Only Cannon brings you *Combspun* percale.

Choose Carefree Colors

When you choose Cannon Carefree Colors, you know they'll stay fresh and new looking after months and months of wear and washing. All 7 colors are certified colorfast. Never fade or streak.

Discover Cannon Fashion Sheets!

You'll love these pastel *Combspun* percale sheets flower-spray borders and matching pillowcases pretty, you'll want to give them as gifts. So th you can enjoy them on every bed in your home.

Be sure your fitted sheets have new "Ezy-Matic" Corners

There are many types of fitted sheets, but only Cannon have the new "Ezy-Matic" Corners. They slip over and under all four corners so easily, you don't have to lift the mattress.

And they stay so neat and smooth and rumple-free. Never pull out . . . never need retucking no matter how you toss or turn.

Fit any standard size mattress. Unlike most other fitted sheets, Cannon's are reinforced all around the edges with strong bias tape for better fit and longer wear. At White Sale prices, now.

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TRADE MARK CANNON

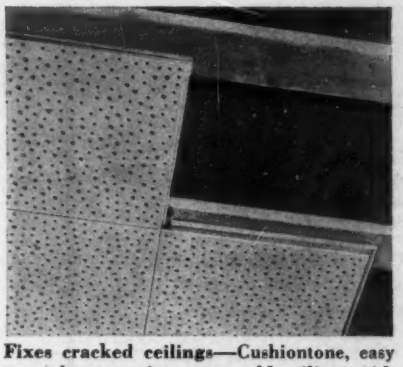
Sound Conditioning . . . the new comfort for up-to-date homes

How to quiet noise for as little as $25.00

Beautiful new ceiling tile absorbs sound before it becomes noise. You can install it yourself — a free booklet tells how

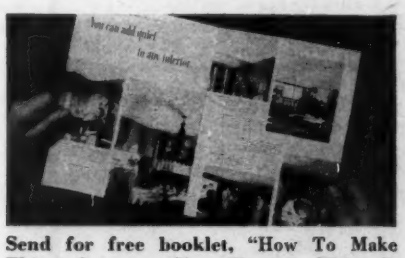
Less noise in the hallway means a much quieter house. A noise-absorbing ceiling of Armstrong Cushiontone softens the shrill shrieks of excited children, preventing sound from charging into other rooms. You'll find Cushiontone's informal Full Random styling attractive, too.

Parties are quieter—and more fun—when you install an Armstrong Cushiontone ceiling in your entertainment area. Disturbing party noises are all pleasantly subdued, and you will enjoy restful quiet. You can quiet a ten by twelve foot room with Cushiontone for less than $25.



Fixes cracked ceilings—Cushiontone, easy to wash or repaint, covers old ceilings with a modern material that never cracks or peels.

It's easy to install Cushiontone by stapling, nailing, or cementing. A new tongue-and-groove joint hides staples or nails and helps level each tile. Whether you do it yourself or want professional help, see your local Building Products Dealer for advice and materials.



Send for free booklet, "How To Make Things Quieter at Your House." Write direct to Armstrong Cork Company, 5601 Farnum Street, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

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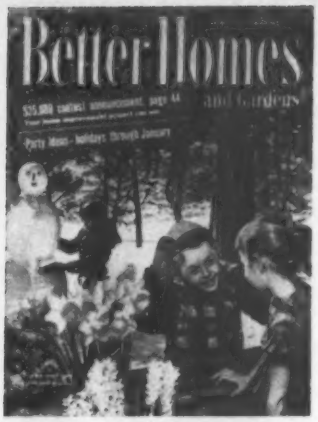
including Cushiontone® and Temlok® Tile

. . . to quiet and beautify your home



Potted plants provide warm color inside while the ground is still blanketed with snow. Here you see daffodils, hyacinths, and azaleas. Enjoy this bright preview of spring in your home. Cover photograph: Reynolds, Photography, Inc.

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Published monthly by Meredith Publishing Company, 1714 Locust Street, Meredith Building, Des Moines 3, Iowa, U.S.A. Entered as second-class matter July 8, 1922, at the post office in Des Moines, Iowa, under act of Congress, March 3, 1879. Copyright, 1955, by Meredith Publishing Company. All rights reserved under the International and Pan-American Conventions. Marca Registrada en Mexico. *Printed in U. S. A.*

Better Homes and Gardens

January, 1956 Vol. 34, No. 1

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The 1956 Better Homes & Gardens $25,000 Home Improvement Contest!

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A LETTER ABOUT SERVICE
TO BETTER HOMES & GARDENS SUBSCRIBERS

Dear Reader:

Just a few months ago, we began installation of an entirely new system of entering and processing *Better Homes & Gardens* subscription orders. This system employs the latest electronic equipment and the "punched-card" method of handling orders.

The new complicated machines, which we're starting to use, do a vast amount of work at tremendous speed. They go a long way toward completely eliminating error. They will, when put to maximum use, make it possible for us to serve a much larger audience of readers with greater efficiency—resulting in better service for all subscribers.

I wish I could say that changing a large and intricate subscription operation to this new system occurs overnight and without any complications. But, of course, it doesn't. It takes time, and it causes some real headaches for a while. So far, our chief problem has been that of getting current issues of the magazine to new subscribers promptly. In some cases, we know the first copy has arrived late. We certainly regret this, and we earnestly hope that the subscribers affected in this way will understand our temporary situation.

Right now, we're using every available minute to complete the change-over quickly. And we should soon reach our goal of providing the best possible service to all subscribers.

Sincerely yours,

E. T. Meredith

General Manager

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

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DEPT. 61

Have you heard the

Latest Garden News?

By Dr. R. Milton Carleton

Old cure saves glad corms

Research often proves that an old-fashioned idea was based on sound practice. For years, a friend insisted he cured diseased gladiolus corms by dunking them in a mixture of BHC and tar oil.

I recently checked his theory by treating 100 badly diseased corms with his mixture. Seventy-five of them produced healthy corms on top of diseased specimens. Untreated corms, used as a check, were practically 100 percent diseased.

Recent studies show that fungicides work more efficiently when combined with insecticides. The insecticides control the insects that chew the roots and allow disease organisms to enter.

In this case, the tar oil plus BHC prevents the corms from getting worse while out of the soil. There is enough of the mixture left to ward off pests when the corms are planted in the spring.

Fertilize pecan trees early

The right time to fertilize pecan trees is from early February to late March. Tests at Louisiana State University show the pecan tree absorbs fertilizer rapidly at that time.

Recommended application is two pounds of a balanced plant food for every year of a tree's age. A second application of about half a pound of nitrate of soda for each year of age should be made in late April or May.

Applications made later in the growing season produce little or no added growth.

Better lawn protection on way

Many turf experts tell me that the summer of 1955 was the worst in their memory for lawn diseases.

Grass, weakened by drouth and high temperatures, was badly hurt by rust, leaf spot diseases, and curvularia. In many cases, all of these diseases attacked at once.

In past years, gardeners had to identify a lawn disease in order to get cure. To make the problem tougher, many lawn diseases can be identified only by laboratory examinations. In answer to this problem, the famous turf section of the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station has developed a "broad spectrum" fungicide, one which controls all major lawn diseases.

This new fungicide combines several chemicals including iron, thiram, cadmium, chromium, organic fungicides, and fungicidal dyestuffs. It is effective as a preventative or as a control after disease strikes.

It will control snow mold, brown patch, damping off, rhizoctonia root rots, copper spot, helminthosporium, septoria and curvularia, [*Turn to page 129*

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Decorator: Evelyn Mayer

Floor-to-ceiling mirrors seem to transform a very narrow hall into a large foyer. Slim leather bench is convenient spot for donning wraps, rubbers. Notice interesting texture of parquet wall treatment. From the A. G. Ballenger home, Highland Park, Illinois

Your "green thumb" shows to advantage in a framework of plants to soften mirror's outlines. Greenery grows in a long, freestanding box. Top edge of the mirror is flush with cornices to give a pleasing, continuous line. From the Lawrence F. Shaw home in Salt Lake City

Photographs: Suter, Hedrich-Blessing; de Gennaro; Meisel; Hopkins

Covering bare spot between windows with a mirror unifies this grouping.

Use of unmatched tables and lamps makes varied, yet balanced arrangement.

The drapery pattern is repeated on a slipcovered chair across the room. Samuel Robbins home in St. Louis.

Designer: James Eppenstein, A.I.A.

Convenience without taking floor space is the keynote of this hanging unit between bedroom doors.

The narrow, black iron frame is in perfect scale for the tiny hall, in harmony with other contemporary furnishings. Mrs. Virginia Halle home, Highland Park, Illinois.

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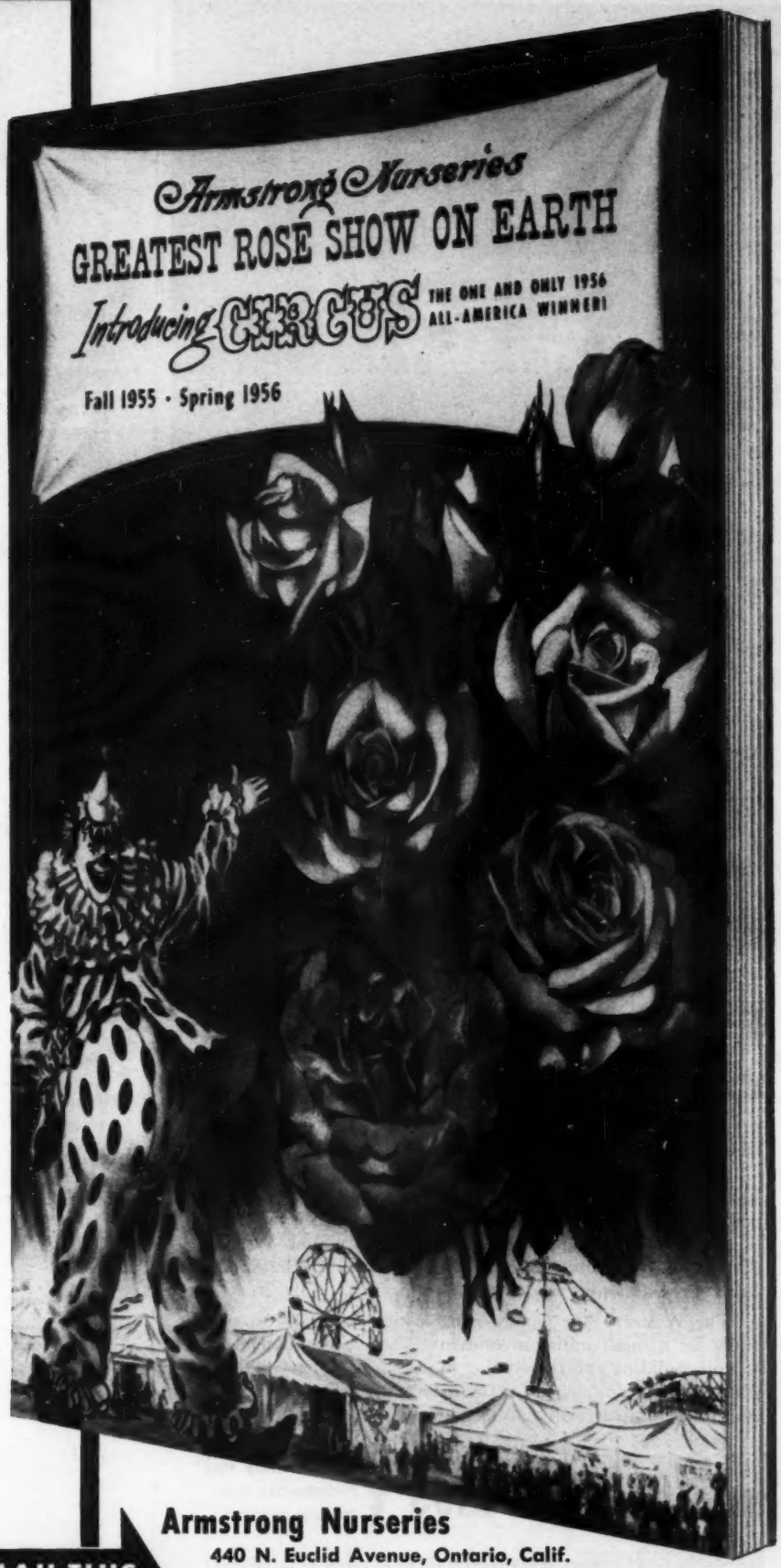
Each bush is a veritable garden magician amazing you with showers of perfect little roses—red, yellow, orange tones, cream and pink are all displayed at once. For the greatest of rose shows, you'll want Circus in your garden.

Special Money-Saving Offers

in this "Book of Better Roses" enable you to buy for less. Our supply of these valuable books is limited, so mail the coupon for your *free* copy, today!



ARMSTRONG NURSERIES
440 North Euclid Avenue, Ontario, Calif.

MAIL THIS COUPON

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☐ Please send at once my *free* copy of the new, 1956 edition of your "Book of Better Roses."

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Practical built-in costs little when you use Western Pine woods*

Treat your home to new charm and convenience with a built-in storage wall like this. Recessed shelves display your prize possessions against a background of mellow Western Pine paneling . . . deep cabinets and closets of these handsome woods provide ample storage space.

The Western Pine woods bring lasting loveliness to your home for a small initial investment. They're economical for all your building and remodeling plans . . . whether you do-it-yourself or have it done. See these carefully selected woods at your local lumber dealer . . . ask him for an estimate!

the Western Pines *IDAHO WHITE PINE *PONDEROSA PINE *SUGAR PINE

BRIGHT NEW IDEAS . . . NEW FREE BOOKLET

"Friendly Home Ideas in Western Pine." 86 photographs, many in color, show you building, decorating and remodeling ideas featuring the cheerful Western Pines. Write for your free booklet to Western Pine Association, Dept. 404-G, Yeon Building, Portland 4, Oregon.

TODAY'S WESTERN PINE TREE FARMING GUARANTEES LUMBER TOMORROW

HOW-TO

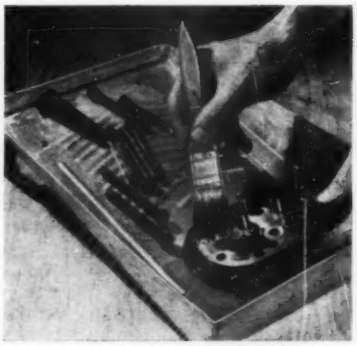
for the handyman®

Cleaning small parts is a snap if you use paint-roller tray as washing and drying rack. Here's how:

Pour detergent in bottom of tray. Soak pieces to be cleaned; brush out grease and dirt. To dry the parts, lay them at top of pan.

Be sure to clean tray before you use it for paint.

Howard R. Clark
Springdale, Arkansas



Mastic used for plastic tile, clay tile, waterproof linoleum, and so on, quickly dries and gums on the spreader when it is exposed to the air.

You can keep mastic soft and workable by laying the spreader in an old cake pan half-filled with water.

When you're ready to use again, simply shake the water off as you pick up spreader.

Fred Carpenter
Westport, Connecticut

Store paintbrushes when you have finished your job by sealing them in heavy wrapping paper, as pictured.

Paper keeps bristles free of dirt and dust, assures clean brushes ready for instant use.

Grocery bag makes good paper for wrapping. Be sure brushes are thoroughly clean before you store them.

J. M. MacNeil
San Francisco, California

Calking compound is easy to remove from hands and arms with a facial cleansing cream instead of the solvents which may dry out your skin.

Dab cream on spots, let it set, and then wipe it off with soft, clean cloth.

Also use cleansing cream to remove paint. Apply, let it set for minute or so, and remove.

Mrs. R. L. Fox
Springfield, Virginia

Emergency hand brace for close-quarter drilling and boring jobs, where regular brace is too big to go, is regular door knob.

The square spindle in the knob holds tools with tapered square shanks—countersink bits, screwdrivers, reamers, and small auger bits.

The knob fits the palm of the hand to provide an excellent nonslip grip.

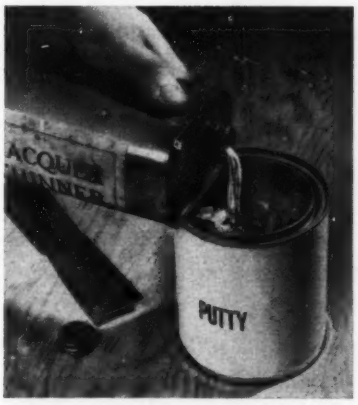
Bruce D. Stewart
Winder, Georgia

Restore putty to working consistency with lacquer thinner. Several drops usually softens it to original form.

Work the lacquer thinner into the putty by kneading it with your putty knife.

When you're finished, check it for small lumps that may have escaped the thinner.

S. Thames
Charlotte, North Carolina

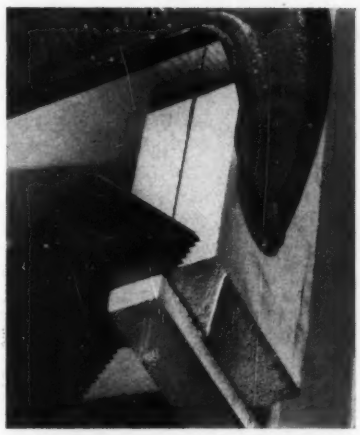


Thin cuts less than width of saw kerf are easy to do if scrap stock controls saw.

Clamp stock to piece you'll trim so end extends slightly.

Cutting both pieces at the same time gives a guide that keeps the saw from wandering off the cutoff line.

W. Adams
Denver, Colorado



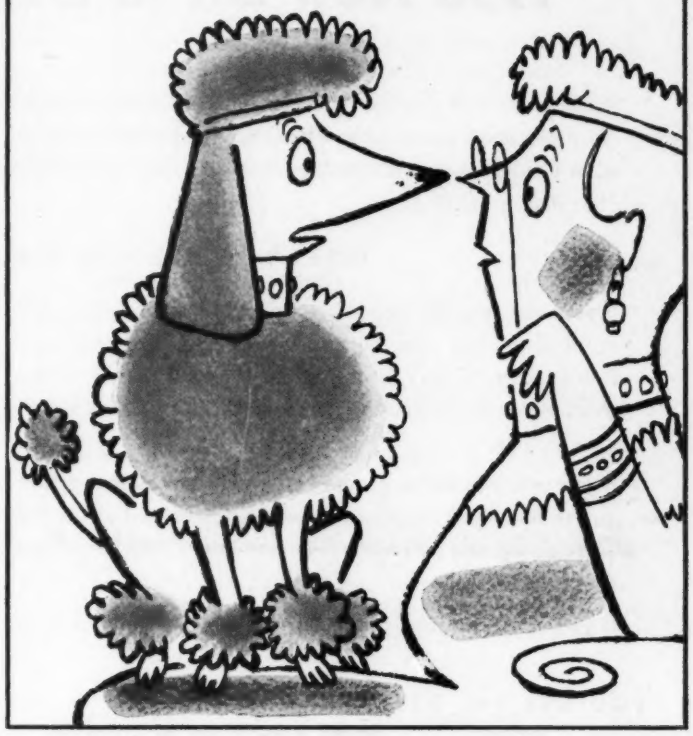
Locate screw holes for cabinet door and drawer pulls this way: Determine where you want pulls; then, run screws into pull, position over spot, and tap it with fist.

Screwheads leave indentation for drill guide. Center-punch pilot hole for tip of twist drill or auger bit.

Ed Porter
Rochester, New York

▶ Send your orginal handyman tips (photographs are not necessary) to Home Maintenance Editor, 6701 Meredith Building, Des Moines 3, Iowa. For each accepted, *Better Homes & Gardens* will pay $5. All will be considered carefully, but those which are no accepted cannot be returned.

where's my PARD?



Doggone it. Let's face a fact squarely. If a dog doesn't get Pard regularly, he just isn't going to treat you like a man's best friend should. There's no mistaking Pard. It's the one with good beef taste. Rich in beef variety meats, ground beef bone—plus the nutrients and vitamins dogs need to keep up to sniff. Great scott! Don't forget to bring home Pard to your dog. Swift makes it—it must be good.

all dogs love its

GOOD BEEF TASTE

MADE BY SWIFT

. . . so you can feed your dog as well as you feed your family!

Swift
101 ST YEAR
To Serve Your Family Better

You Can Win Twice

in the BH&G $25,000 Home Improvement Contest if you use Frigidaire's 1956 New Lift to Living Home Appliances!

What an offer! If you use 1956 Frigidaire Products and win one of the first 7 prizes in the BH&G $25,000 Home Improvement Contest *your costs for the products will be refunded!* (See details below.)

Frigidaire's 1956 New Lift to Living Appliances offer you a wealth of modern features and advancements. They're beautiful to look at, efficient and economical in use, and built with legendary Frigidaire precision.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN *WIN TWICE* IN THE BH&G CONTEST

If you win 1st prize, product costs will be refunded on any or all of the following current model Frigidaire products: Refrigerator, Range, Food Freezer, Washer & Dryer, Dishwasher, Room Air Conditioner, or Central Air Conditioner, up to 5 tons.

If you win 2nd prize, product costs will be reimbursed on any or all of the Frigidaire Products mentioned above for 1st prize winners (except Washer and Dryer) or a Frigidaire Central Air Conditioner, up to 3 tons.

If you win 3rd prize, product costs will be reimbursed on any or all of the following Frigidaire products: Refrigerator, Range, Washer or Dryer, or a Central Air Conditioner, up to 2 tons.

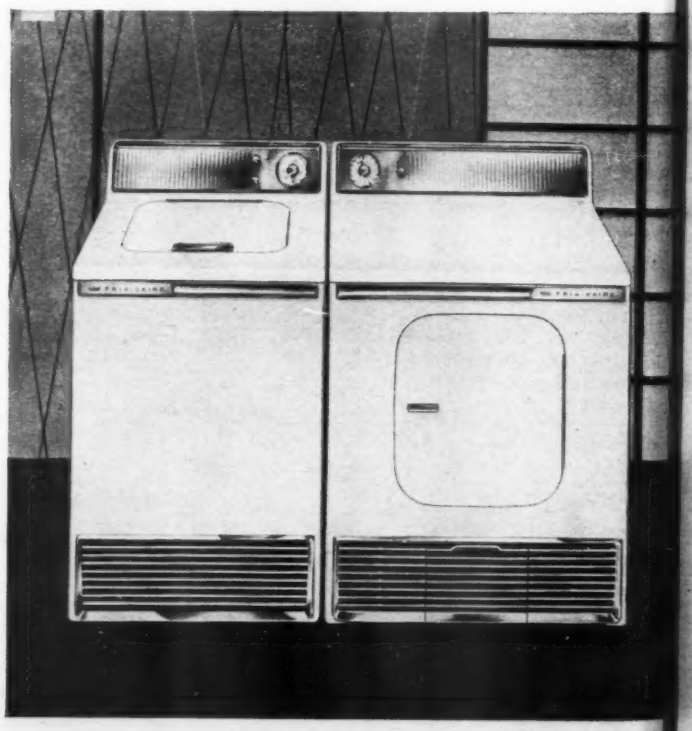
If you win one of the next 4 prizes in the Kitchen and Utility Division, product costs will be refunded on any current model Frigidaire Refrigerator or Range, or both.

Prizes awarded only for entries in a single contest category —only one prize award per winner. Winners must produce satisfactory evidence of their product purchase and cost. Fill out and mail the coupon today, without obligation.

YOU GET THE BEST WHEN YOU BUY

GM GENERAL MOTORS **FRIGIDAIRE**

BUILT AND BACKED BY GENERAL MOTORS



FRIGIDAIRE, Dept. B. H.— Dayton, Ohio

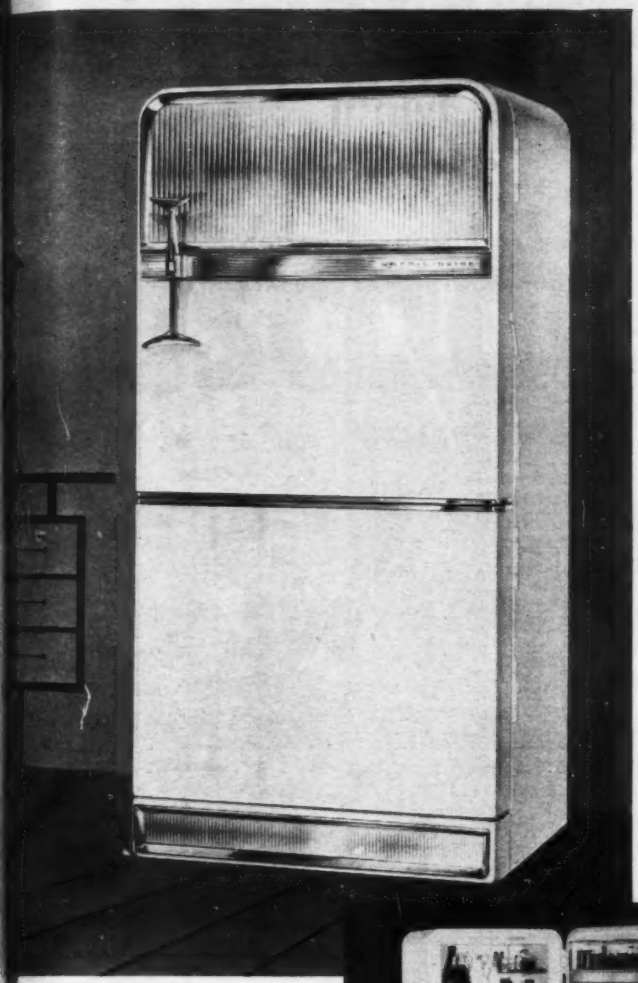
I am considering entering the Better Homes & Gardens $25,000 Home Improvement Contest. Without obligation on my part, send me literature on the products I have checked.

☐ REFRIGERATOR ☐ RANGE ☐ FOOD FREEZER
☐ WASHER ☐ DRYER ☐ ROOM AIR CONDITIONER
☐ DISHWASHER ☐ CENTRAL AIR CONDITIONER

Name.....

Street & No.....

City.....Zone.....State.....



Beautiful TO LOOK AT
DELIGHTFUL TO LIVE WITH!

The New Lift to Living

1956 FRIGIDAIRE IMPERIAL COLD-PANTRY WITH THE SENSATIONAL NEW ICE-EJECTOR

The Ice-Ejector zips out cubes, and drops them into the storage bin, which holds 135 cubes that won't stick or melt! See all these features, plus many others, at your Frigidaire Dealer's *now*. Full-width shelves roll out all the way. The Picture Window Hydrator tilts down right into your hands.

Available in four fashion-smart colors and white—plus colorful Decorator Panels that snap on and off for a 2-tone effect—the 1956 Frigidaire Imperial Cold-Pantry is as modern as tomorrow in features and advancements.

The 14.3 cu. ft. model gives you 9.5 cu. ft. refrigerator capacity plus a 168-pound-capacity Food Freezer, with a door that swings open at a touch of your foot.

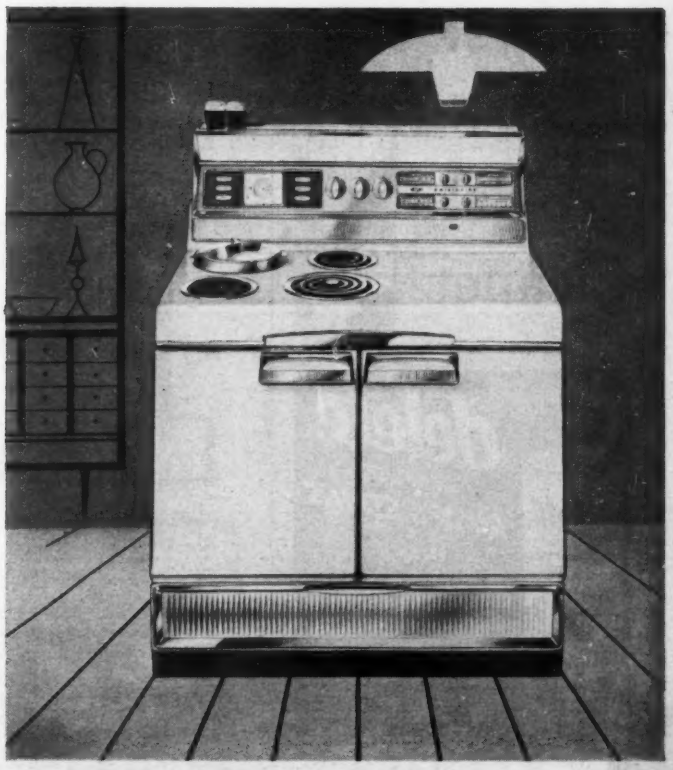
NO SMOKE OR FUMES!
THEY VANISH LIKE *Magic!*

The New Lift to Living

1956 FRIGIDAIRE ELECTRIC RANGE

Here's something absolutely new in design, in your choice of four decorator colors and white! No smoke or fumes when you cook or broil with Frigidaire's exclusive Miracle Filter.
The Heat-Minder Unit of the Thinking Top keeps watch on cooking foods—doesn't let them burn.

You get jig-time cooking with the Speed-Heat Unit.
It's off to a lightning start—then goes to preselected heat.
And you can always tell what heat you're using—on any unit—by a glance at the new Easy-View Controls. Here's automatic cooking magic, such as you've never seen before!



WHAT *Wonderful*
WASHDAY TWINS!

The New Lift to Living

1956 FRIGIDAIRE WASHER—DRYER

Now with the Econo-Dial, here's automatic washing and drying at its Frigidaire best! The Washer gives you full-load automatic washing, with the gentle piece-by-piece care of hand laundering, thanks to Live-Water washing action.

Wash and rinse-water are cleaned automatically, effectively removing dirt and lint from clothes. Your clothes spin out drier than you dreamed possible.

Then put the full load into the Frigidaire Imperial Filtra-matic Dryer and, faster than ever, they come out, dry, fluffy, and sweet-smelling. And you don't spend a penny for plumbing or venting.

Get rid of toilet bowl odor and stains. Keep your bathroom fresh as apple blossoms.

Use perfumed VANISH Toilet Bowl Cleaner

New delete REMOVES RUST & STAINS from ENAMEL SINKS & TUBS — METALS — TILE — CAR BUMPERS and . . . it's perfumed! Get new DELETE in the large can, at leading grocery stores.

Judson Dunaway Corp., Dover, N. H.

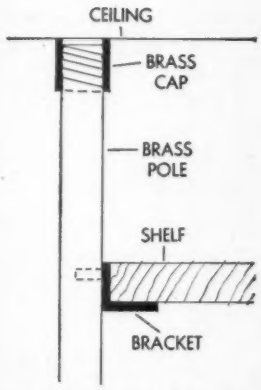
Ideas for a double-duty room

Built-ins and dual-purpose furnishings transform "just an extra bedroom" to a usable room for TV, guests, study

Stools repeat the accent of brass in the shelf framework, make handy seating anywhere.

Shelves match the wood of the other furniture. They are removable for easy cleaning, and so the openings can be varied in size for different decorative effects. Center drawer unit is extra deep to hold television set.

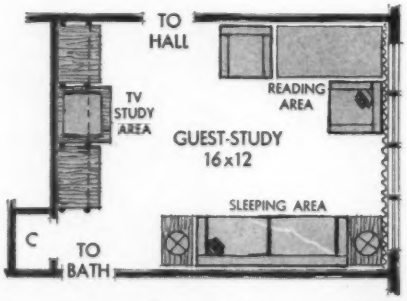
Sofa opens for guest sleep space.



Shelf unit is made of heavy brass drapery poles threaded at each end to accept metal caps. Caps act as extenders to make poles snug between floor and ceiling. (See diagram).

Angle brackets hold removable shelves in place.

The carpenter-made drawer units are supported on poles with same type brackets and toggle bolts as shelves.



Furniture is grouped according to activities, allows enough floor space to open the sofa bed

Photographs: Howland. Decorator: Robert Lowenstein, A.I.D.

Corner table combines practicality of a large, easy-care marble top with a drawer for games and cards. Traveling lamp can easily be pushed toward either chair and adjusted up or down.

White walls and all-one-color rug, draperies, and furniture make room look spacious. Draw draperies assure darkness for daytime televiewing.

NEW!

FOR AUTOMATIC DISHWASHERS

Cascade*

Procter & Gamble's
Miracle Detergent

Gives spotless results never before possible in your dishwasher!

NEVER BEFORE such spotless glasses!

Tired of finding unsightly spots on your freshly-washed glasses? Don't blame your dishwasher—just switch to new Cascade! Cascade's exclusive formula gives the cleanest glasses you've ever had—spotless and crystal clear, "close-up clean."

NEVER BEFORE such sparkling silver!

See how Cascade does away with annoying spots on silver! You'll find Cascade leaves your silver ready for the table—free of streaks . . . gleaming bright . . ."close-up clean"! And Cascade helps protect your nice aluminum ware, too.

PLUS new safety for fine china!

It's true! Cascade actually helps *protect* china! In fact, in your dishwasher Cascade is safer for delicate china patterns, including gold leaf, than any other product. And mmmm . . . how you'll love Cascade's pretty green color and fresh pine scent. So test Cascade yourself today!

**Recommended by these leading dishwasher manufacturers:*

American Kitchens
Apex
CROSLEY
GENERAL ELECTRIC
Hotpoint
JAMES
KENMORE
KitchenAid
Westinghouse
Youngstown Kitchens

Miracle **Cascade** *gets glasses, silver, china cleaner than any other dishwasher detergent!*

Now the big hit in HARDTOPS comes in all four price ranges

Reading from left to right: ROADMASTER • SUPER • CENTURY • SPECIAL

WITH ALL the excitement that has greeted the introduction of the 1956 Buicks—we'd like to put the spotlight on this fact:

You can get the stepped-up V8 power that's so sensational, we built a wholly new chassis of greater brawn and solidity to handle it...

You can get the 1956 version of Buick's exclusive Variable Pitch Dynaflow*—with the "double regeneration" feature that puts spectacularly new and Dynaflow-smooth take-off into the *starting* range . . .

You can get the steadier, smoother, buoyantly level comfort of the sweetest ride in Buick history . . .

You can get the fresh new styling—outside and in—which is cinching Buick style leadership in another year . . .

You can get everything that has won this year's Buick full recognition as *the best yet . . .*

And you can get it all in a full-line choice of the fabulous 4-Door Riviera — for now this top hit in hardtops comes in the SUPER *and* ROADMASTER *Series, as well as the* SPECIAL *and* CENTURY.

Of course, you can get the great new 1956 Buick in a full variety of other body types, too . . .

In Sedans, in Convertibles, in Estate Wagons, in 2-Door Rivieras.

But whatever your choice, it will be, literally, the best Buick yet. So you'd better pay a visit to your Buick dealer—soon.

BUICK *Division of* GENERAL MOTORS

NEW Precision-Balanced Chassis, engineered all new from front to rear for extra-rugged roadability
NEW V8 Power Peaks In Every Buick
NEW Variable Pitch Dynaflow*— with double-action take-off

NEW Deep-Oil-Cushioned Luxury Ride—with all-coil springing and true torque-tube drive
NEW Sweep-Ahead Styling—with Fashion Color Harmony inside and out

NEW Smoother-Action Brakes with Suspended Pedal
NEW Stepped-Up Gas Mileage in All Buicks
NEW Safety Power Steering† for instant and constant response

**New Advanced Variable Pitch Dynaflow is the only Dynaflow Buick builds today. It is standard on Roadmaster, Super and Century —optional at modest extra cost on the Special. †Standard on Roadmaster and Super, optional at extra cost on other Series.*

SEE JACKIE GLEASON ON TV
Every Saturday Evening

Best Buick yet

Silver is practical for serving dishes

By Janet Clark

With today's trend toward easy, informal entertaining you will want silver holloware pieces to add that needed touch of elegance to your table. Silver holloware can be within your budget if you accumulate it piece by piece—at Christmas, birthday, or anniversary.

Tarnishproof cloths make upkeep simple—but better yet, use your silver all the time. Soap and water will keep it tarnish-free. Here are some of the most versatile pieces. You'll want to use them continually.

Gleaming Heirloom 700 pattern silverplate is just right for contemporary tables. Chafing dish holds three quarts. Separate 5-inch-high stand for bowl makes storage easy. Serve hot or cold food in covered buffet dish with insulated handle. Fluted-edge compote and slender salt and pepper are handsome table accents

These Paul Revere pattern bowls have three diameters—6, 8, and 9 inches. Their uses are many—from tossed salads to punch bowls to fruit and flower arrangements. Prices are very reasonable. Sandwiches, molded salad, rolls will look delicious on this sterling plate. Triangular bowl is perfect for sauces and dressing

More on next page

FOR FIVE DIFFERENT REASONS . . .

WE TURNED TO G-E TEXTOLITE®

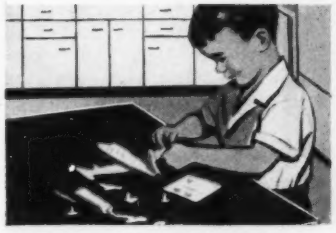
Our family is sold on the long-wearing beauty of G-E Textolite. We think you will be, too, when you see Textolite's tremendous variety of patterns and colors. See them at your dealer's or send 10¢ for *Full Color Folder*.

General Electric Co., Dept. BHG 1-6, P.O. Box 5911, Cleveland 1, Ohio.

DAD—has lots more free time with G-E Textolite. No more costly refinishing jobs—due to stains or cigarette burns. Textolite resists *heat, stains and scratches.*

MOM—loves G-E Textolite because it's so easy to clean. Just a wipe with a damp cloth keeps it bright and new looking. G-E Textolite needs *no special care.*

DEBBIE—is so proud of her G-E Textolite bathroom...counters and walls are G.E.'s new Marble design. Distinctive Textolite adds a "luxury" look to any room.



PETER—likes G-E Textolite as a "work" surface because Textolite isn't affected by accidents like spilled glue or ink. Playtime is a happy time with G-E Textolite.

TAFFY—is almost never in the dog house now. That's because G-E Textolite stays lovely, despite hard usage . . . it gives "years of wear...with minutes of care."

GENERAL ELECTRIC

CELESTE 5-piece place setting 11.95

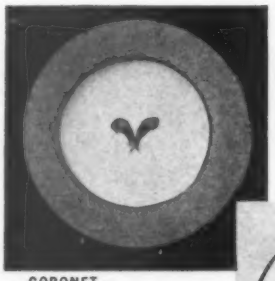
Almost everyone recognizes at first sight Syracuse' special beauty and quality. It's so obvious — from warm, glowing design and color to superb smoothness and lustre.

But it's the hidden quality — remarkable hardness and strength — that makes Syracuse yours to enjoy every meal, every day. And it all costs so little!

Experience and research over the years have shown Syracuse how to make finer china — less expensive.

FREE Portfolio of Syracuse patterns in full color . . . hints on choosing, using and caring for your china. Send for your copy today. Syracuse China, Dept.BH158, Syracuse 4, N. Y.

Prices slightly higher west of the Rockies



CORONET 5-piece place setting 16.95

DORIAN 5-piece place setting 16.95

PATRICIA 5-piece place setting 12.95

SYRACUSE *China*

Beauty that works for a living!

Silver is practical for serving dishes

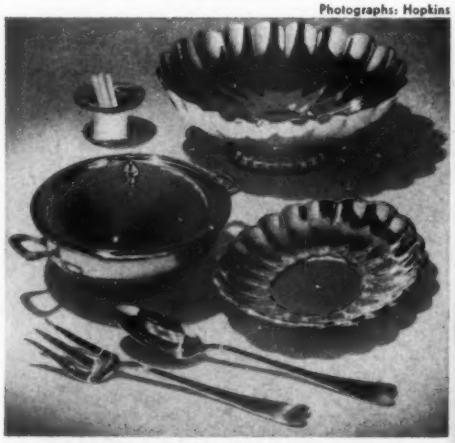
Begins on preceding page

For you who enjoy the rich elegance of yesterday, these unusual silver dishes are a joy. Footed dish is ideal for cakes, sandwiches, fruit, or as a card and letter holder. Tray of cruet set without bottles is excellent for relishes or crackers. Serve candies and nuts in Grand Baroque pattern sweetheart dish

Ovenproof casserole with gleaming silver cover and stand has the much-sought-after combination of beauty and practicality. Contour pattern serving fork and spoon reflect simplicity of the casserole.

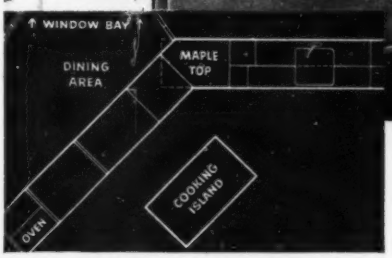
A glowing, blue-green enamel lining highlights this exquisite silver bowl. Esplanade pattern nut spoon offers contrast.

Photographs: Hopkins



Here's a well-designed Master Buffet Set. Use centerpiece bowl for fruit and flowers. Covered dish has oven-glass insert. Remove, and you've another bowl. Cold cuts on tray have appetizing eye-appeal.

The sterling fork, spoon, and cigarette hat complete this useful serving ensemble.



WIDE ANGLE LENDS a spacious, custom appearance — yet it was accomplished without expensive, special counters. We simply cut a Republic maple top (ideal location for sandwichmaking) to the desired angle, and joined regular counters at either end.

Your Republic Steel Kitchens dealer can adapt this plan to your home

There's a practical side to this smart, modern kitchen!

I wanted an exciting kitchen of breath-taking beauty—but it had to be *breath-saving* as well. Planned with well organized work centers, a generous sweep of counters, and plenty of storage space.

I think the placement of my lovely built-in oven helped me decide *what* kind of cabinets I wanted. Where else should all that heat be trusted but in fireproof steel! Republic Steel Kitchens offered a wide selection of built-in oven and range cabinets, and their many kinds of wall and base units solved every storage problem in my plan. And they're so beautiful... so well made. Believe me, it pays to buy from the one company that controls quality right from the ore fields to finished product.

REPUBLIC STEEL *Kitchens*

REPUBLIC STEEL Kitchens

TRES BIEN, that tray bin—for it holds a nest of servers, cookie sheets, and a bread board in only nine inches of space. And the slim drawers are so perfect for linens, small tools, or a Pacific-cloth silverware chest—another Republic accessory. Baked goods stay fresh in the bottom-drawer breadbox.

POT LUCK is always at hand because Republic's inner, sliding drawers keep utensils readily in reach. No down-on-all-fours to grope in far-away corners. All drawers move silently on nylon glides. A clearance rail prevents binding between counter and top drawer, adds strength.

DOUBLE ENTRY into this peninsula cabinet gives me a world of step-saving convenience when I'm setting the table. For my counters and sink, I chose Republic's satin-finish Enduro® stainless steel that looks even lovelier with use. It's so easy to keep clean, and matches new-trend surfaces of built-ins.

Praise-Winning Kitchens takes the mystery out of planning the kitchen just right for *you*. Get your copy by sending 25 cents with this coupon filled out to Republic Steel Kitchens, Dept. A, 1038 Belden Ave., Canton 5, Ohio.
BHG-861

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zone _____

County _____ State _____

Rehearsing a helicopter rescue mission, hunter wounded by accidental discharge of gun lies in field 30 miles from hospital. With Gallagher at the controls and a nurse aboard, helicopter comes in for landing 20 feet away

The new ambulance that flies

Buffalo and Santa Monica use the helicopter to ferry emergency cases direct to the hospital

By Dan Paonessa

On October 21, 1954, just outside of Buffalo, New York, ex-test pilot Bill Gallagher gently maneuvered a helicopter down to a green platform with a bull's-eye in its center. He opened the transparent plastic door and motioned to the nun standing a few feet away.

He grinned as she walked hesitatingly under the whirling rotor blade. "Don't be afraid, Sister," he reassured her. "Last week I took up a bishop."

Sister Mary Mechtilde, blue-eyed administrator of the Kenmore Mercy Hospital, shook her head. [*Turn to page 27*

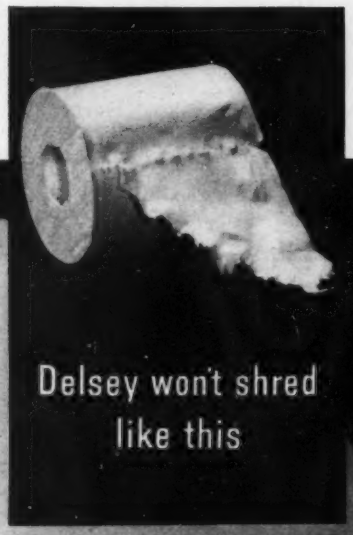
Photographs: Joe Munroe

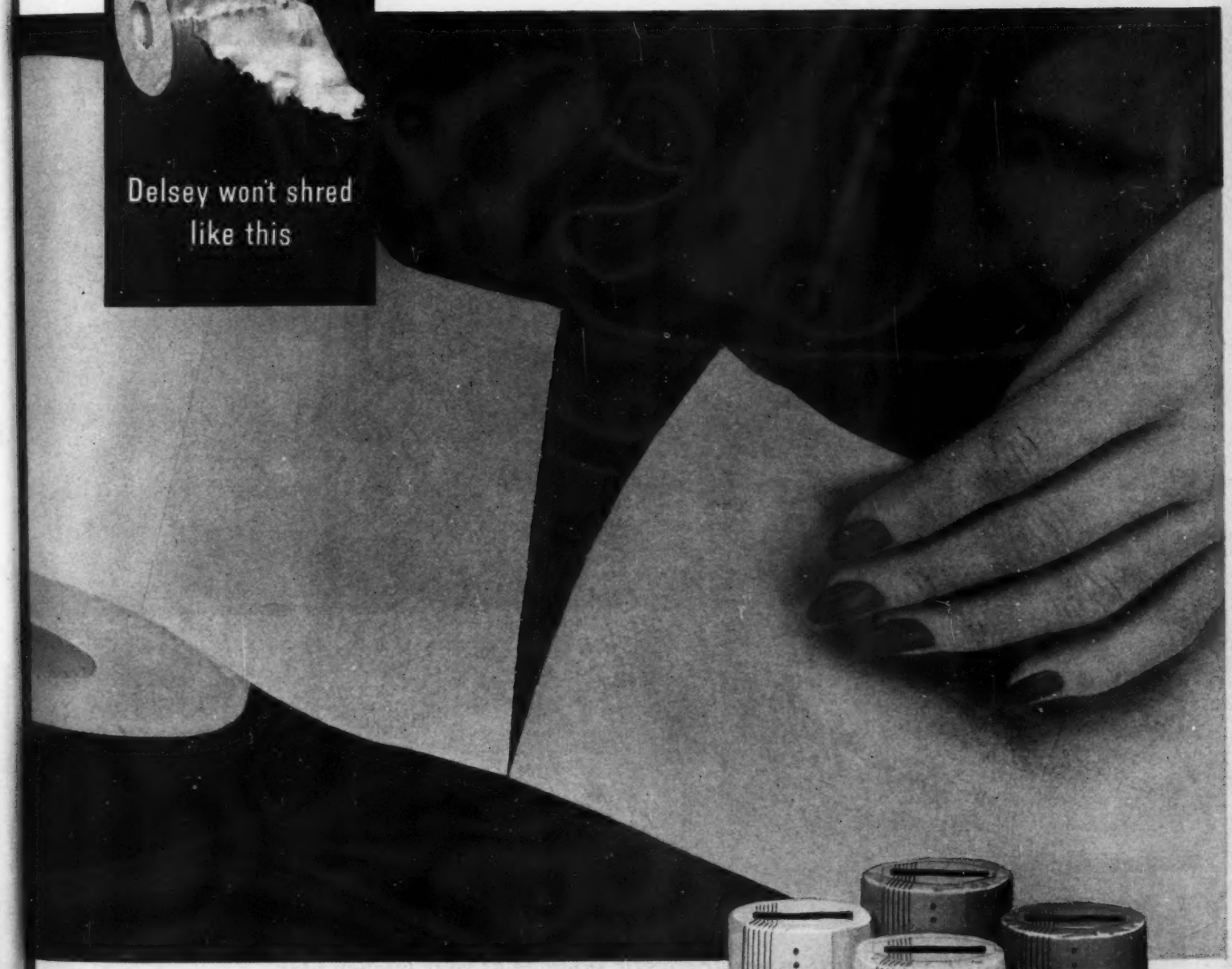
Since all roads were snow-blocked, a telephone call was made from a nearby farmhouse and the hospital immediately sent out the helicopter. The trip took only minutes, but by automobile—if an ambulance could have gotten through the drifts—it would have taken hours

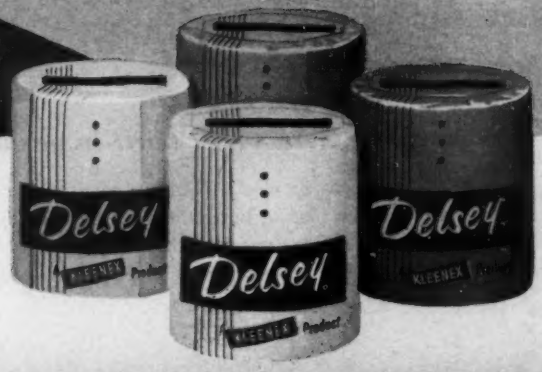
Soft like Kleenex tissues

Only Delsey is clean-cut to tear evenly

Ends waste, saves money







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The new ambulance that flies

Begins on page 24

Gallagher keeps the helicopter running while the nurse administers first aid. She also instructs the men how to take the top off of the litter, put the injured man on the stretcher and into the litter. In minutes the patient is buckled on helicopter bound for hospital

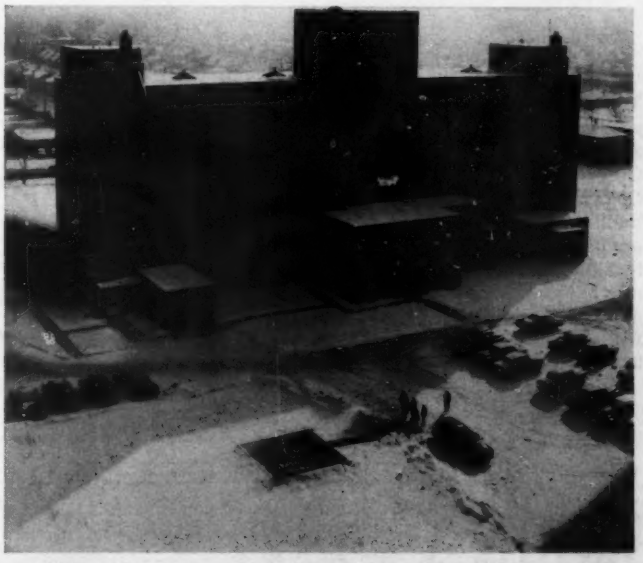
"What's there to be afraid of?" she asked. But she blessed herself before stepping into the cabin.

When they had reached an altitude of 500 feet, she asked the pilot if he'd mind going a little slower. Gallagher thought that this Buck Rogerish way of traveling was a little too much for the Sister of Mercy and he wanted to bring the plane down. But the sister wouldn't hear of it. This was the first time she was able to see, all at once, her own hospital, and she wanted a good look.

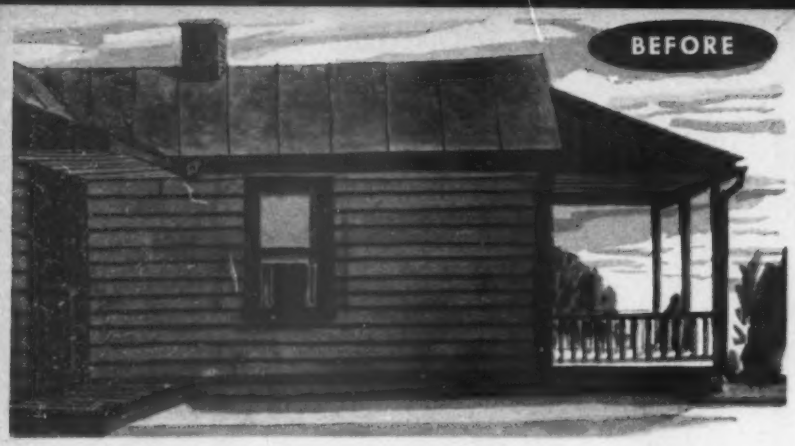
Below, next to the emergency entrance, she could see the 20-foot square heliport, with its runway for stretchers, and white lettering that read "Kenmore Mercy Hospital Heliport." An aerial ambulance was surely a blessing, she thought; a heliport would have averted much of the nightmare of the Lucidol explosions.

The Lucidol disaster was typical of the problems that beset hospital ambulance service in the crowded, industrial Niagara frontier. At 11 a.m. on September 24, 1953, a series of explosions completely flattened the Lucidol peroxide manufacturing plant. Sister Mechtilde heard the first explosion in her office at the hospital. Before the explosions had stopped, the ambulance she had sent arrived at the plant. There were 22 dead; 33 people needed treatment.

[*Turn to next page*



Heliport is small rectangle in parking lot behind Kenmore Mercy Hospital. Attendants on hand rush patient to emergency entrance



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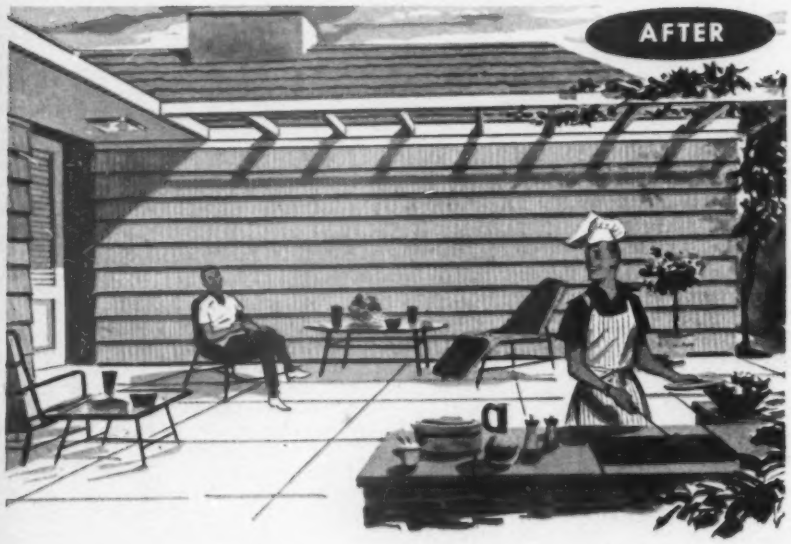

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The new ambulance that flies

Continued from preceding page

Gallagher brings the craft down smoothly onto the heliport only minutes after the pickup. Litters are heated for service the year round

"The police arrived right after the ambulance," Sister Mechtilde said. "They did the best they could to keep the roads clear, but the traffic was terrible—friends and relations of the employees swarmed all over the place. We had a difficult time getting the victims back to the hospital. There's no telling the amount of human suffering that would have been prevented if we'd had the heliport then."

Gallagher, a heavy-shouldered Irishman with an avid devotion to the machines that fly mortals to the heavens, and the diminutive nun, whose spiritual interests were along the same lines, had first met at the hospital a week before. The pilot was sent by Bell Aircraft Corporation in Buffalo to collaborate with the sister in selecting a site for the heliport. Before the simple landing platform could be constructed there were many basic problems that needed working out. One of the most important was to consider the prevailing winds, so that helicopter landings wouldn't be endangered by sudden gusts. Another was to figure a clear approach for landings, away from tall buildings and factories.

"In making an approach with a 'copter full of sick people, it's no fun to have to feel your way around factory chimneys," says Gallagher, who is an engineer and demonstration pilot at Bell Aircraft.

They considered building the heliport on top of the hospital. But Sister Mechtilde and the pilot discarded this plan after a quick consultation with the architect. The added stress would have been too great.

They selected another site at the rear of the hospital, but this one was discarded too. The winds weren't right. The approach would be too hazardous.

There was only one remaining site now, but its location was better suited to the hospital's needs than all the others. Situated only a few short steps from the ambulance entrance, a heliport there would make it possible to wheel a patient direct from the plane into the hospital.

The sister waited while Gallagher, drawing upon his long experience as fighter pilot in World War II, calculated the prevailing winds and found them ideal for a helicopter landing. Even better, there was a clear approach over the woods behind the hospital. The heliport site was flawless.

The first mercy heliport in America had been built a month earlier on the roof of Santa Monica Hospital, Santa Monica, California. Larry Bell, aviation pioneer and president of Bell Aircraft Corporation, was present when the first helicopter landed and was greatly impressed by the whole idea. When he went home to Buffalo, he took the initiative in getting the Kenmore Mercy Hospital to establish such service.

Since that time, Los Angeles General Hospital has provided helicopter landing space next to

[*Turn to page 31*

She says . . . "What a wonderful movie—and isn't Mitzi Gaynor beautiful?"

He says . . . "Sure she is. But to me—you're just as lovely as Mitzi Gaynor."

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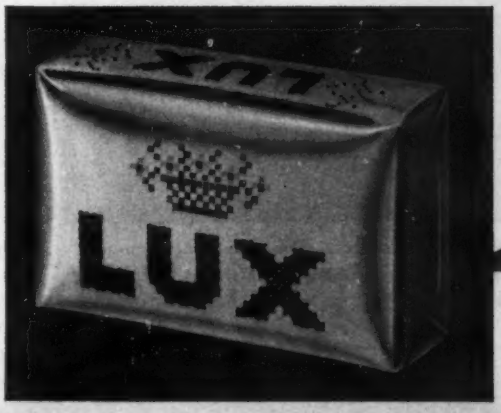

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The new ambulance that flies

Continued from page 28

Immediately after landing, the hospital attendants take over. The patient is removed from the litter and placed on a roll stretcher. The nurse is from the Bell Aircraft Corporation, not the hospital, since Gallagher didn't take time to stop at the hospital for pickup

their emergency department, and other hospitals across the nation are following suit.

The helicopter used is similar to those flown in rescue work during the Korean War, and is equipped with heated litters. Sister Mechtilde and Gallagher plan to use it not only for such emergency cases as expectant mothers and industrial disasters, but also for picking up stranded Great Lakes fishermen and wounded hunters—particularly when highway traffic is heavy or stopped by snowstorms.

Even within the city limits, speed of the helicopter pickup could save the life of an emergency patient, when immediate treatment is needed. Gallagher had clocked the flight time for the 17 miles from the 'copter's hangar to the hospital; the trip took only eight minutes. When the roads are clear it takes an ambulance 30 minutes to cover this distance. During the tourist season, or when the huge industries change shifts, an ambulance may be held up for hours by a traffic jam.

The real impetus behind the mercy heliport plan was the Korean War, where approximately 25,000 U.N. troops were rescued by rotary-wing aircraft.

"Even before Korea," said Gallagher, "we were pretty familiar with air rescue work. Over the past 10 years, as a good-will gesture, the helicopters have been on 24-hour emergency call from the community, the police, and the coast guard. The congested Niagara frontier is a perfect location for experimental helicopter rescue."

During the past 10 years, in the vicinity of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, these helicopters have rescued snowbound farmers, fishermen stranded on ice floes, and have snatched up people off the Niagara River as their boats were about to go over the falls.

Gallagher and the sister recalled one of the first rescue missions by helicopter ever made. This rescue was in January, 1945, just outside of Buffalo.

"Jack Woolams was flying a P-59 Airacomet at high altitude when the jet failed," Gallagher said. "He hit his head as he bailed out, and by the time he had recovered enough to pull his rip cord he was traveling at such a high speed that the sudden snap of the opening parachute tore his flying boots and shoes from his feet."

After he had hit the ground, Woolams had to trudge through deep snow in his stocking feet. The temperature was only 10 degrees above zero. When he finally stumbled on a farmhouse, after a mile hike, both his feet were badly frozen. An ambulance and doctor were called from Buffalo, but three miles from the farmhouse the ambulance skidded and stuck in the mounting drifts. There was no other route, and it would have

[*Turn to next page*

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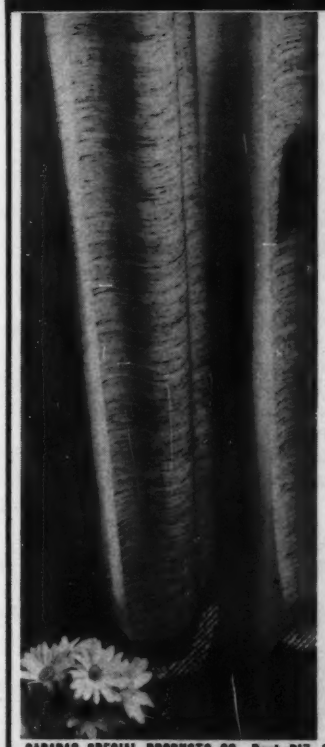

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Shantung Weave. Chamois, gold, pearl, turquoise, beige, cocoa, ash rose, rose dust, sea foam, spruce, leaf green.

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For extra economy buy it in the 4 or 25-lb. sacks.

The new ambulance that flies

Continued from preceding page

taken too long for a snowplow to clear the road, for now the delay of even a few hours' time could have meant the loss of the injured pilot's feet—or possibly death.

In desperation, the doctor from the stalled ambulance put in a hurried call to the Bell Aircraft Corporation. Within a matter of a very few minutes, a helicopter had picked up the doctor and flew him on to the farmhouse where he gave Woolams badly needed emergency treatment. Later, when the roads were clear, the injured man was taken to the hospital.

The pilot who flew this first mercy mission was Floyd W. Carlson, a test pilot who, back in 1942, had the hair-raising task of teaching himself to fly a helicopter when this type of aircraft was first being developed.

The hovering "eggbeater" has become a welcome and familiar sight to Lake Erie ice fishermen who are often stranded.

Pilots like Gallagher and Carlson describe these flights as "just routine." But the mercy helicopter whirs off to inaccessible places in snow and sleet, and in weather that sometimes keeps even a postman close to home.

"If I can see, I can fly these things," Gallagher told Sister Mechtilde. "Even in zero visibility we can hover these things a few feet above the ground, go ahead slowly and sort of feel our way around."

The helicopter has become perhaps the greatest single mechanical lifesaving device in history. Combined with hospital heliports, the speed of helicopter pickups could greatly reduce the growing rate of accidental deaths, according to Sister Mechtilde.

"Very likely within the next 10 years, the helicopter will be an important part of the common commercial ambulance service," says the sister. "The mercy heliport is a limited operation right now—it'll be used for perhaps 10 or 12 emergency flights a year. But if only one life is saved by a hospital helicopter pickup, it will more than repay us."

In the meantime, Bell Aircraft is designing a new helicopter, especially for rescue work. It will have a four-place cabin big enough to accommodate the pilot, two patients, and a doctor or nurse.

Gallagher believes that when helicopter pickups by hospitals become common, the operation will likely be a joint venture with the community, county, or state. In Santa Monica, California, however, private enterprise is taking the initiative and a group of eight public-spirited businessmen have formed a helicopter ambulance service called "Helicopter, Ambulance & Transport Service, Inc.," or "HATS" for short. They expect to have three mercy helicopters with their pilots on call 24 hours a day to fly patients to hospitals in the Los Angeles area. When the 'copters aren't on mercy missions, they'll pay their way with photographic surveys, fire patrol, and passenger service.

Gallagher estimated that the initial costs of a flying ambulance and crew, including a year's operation of about 1,000 hours, would be less than $60,000. "And that," Sister Mechtilde added, "is a pretty small sum for even one human life."

Sister Mary Mechtilde and Gallagher confer after each mission to see how they can save still more time on future ferrying operations

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You can divide any plant which grows in clumps, with separate root systems for each part below soil. Examples above show variety of plants easily divided. Notice that each has several stems rising from below the soil

Three-step way to divide your house plants

Tired of seeing an overgrown house plant sitting on the window sill? Then divide it. It's an excellent way of giving an old plant a new lease on life. And it also gives you new plants for other rooms, or for combining with others in a mixed planter.

You can divide house plants at any time of the year, and it's an easy, three-step job. But first, look at your plants with an eye to their needs.

Do they need dividing? The two at right in the picture above are just reaching an attractive size—they can be divided, but won't benefit. But the three on the left will look better—and grow better—after dividing. Here's how you do it.

1 Remove plant, soil and all, from its pot. To loosen, turn pot upside down and give it a quick, sharp tap. Soil ball held together by roots will slide out intact

Photographs: Stanley

2 Shake soil from roots until you can see where stems join main plant. Examine carefully and select sections with good roots of their own that you can remove from old plant. Pull sections apart gently, or cut with knife

3 Plant new sections just like any house plant. Use a porous potting soil, one that includes peat or compost. Firm the soil about roots with thumbs, then water thoroughly. Keep plants out of direct sun for few days

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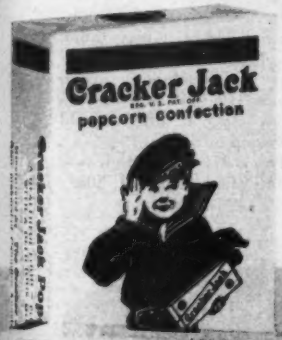

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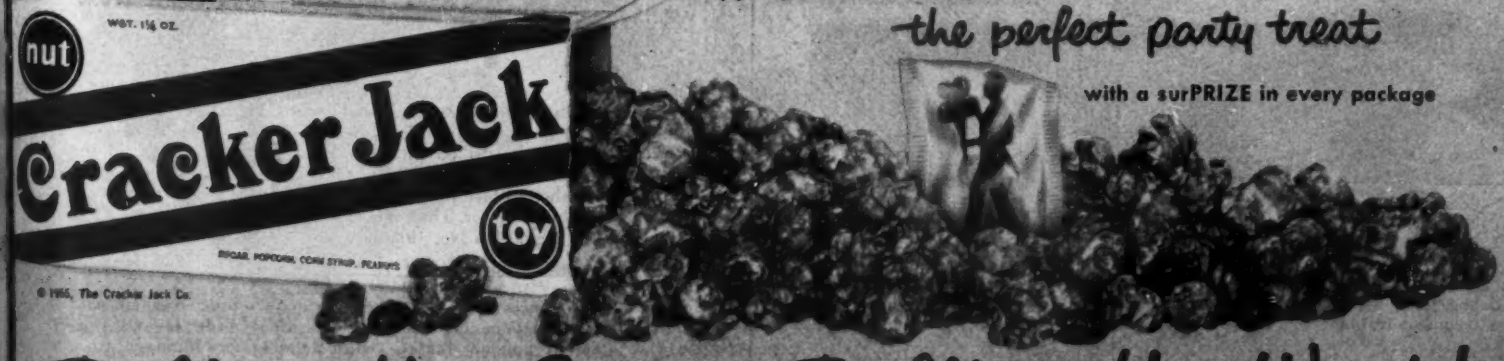

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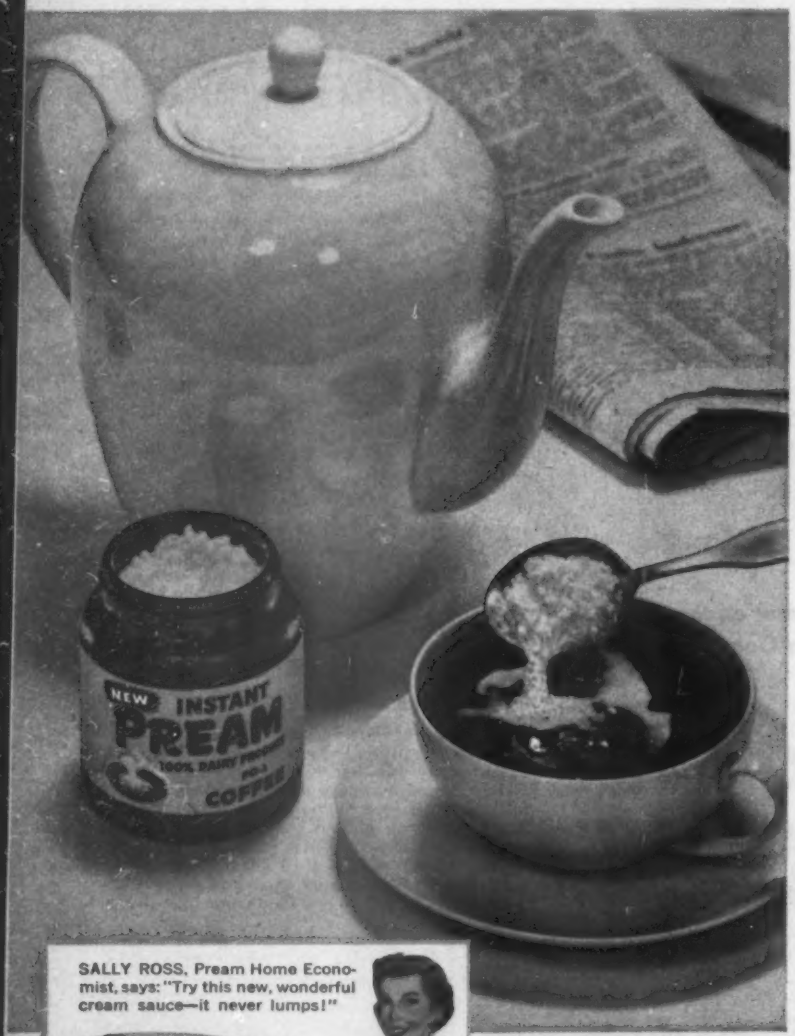

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Combine 4 tbs. Pream, 2 tbs. flour, ½ tsp. salt in saucepan. Add 1 cup water. Cook, stir till thickened. Add 1 tbs. butter. Makes one cup.

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Useful tables *you can make*

Build the low, multipurpose Handy Plan table that goes with your furniture. These can be made in your choice of wood

Early American styling is retained in this popular and functional cobbler's bench.

Assembled with dowels, a typical method of the period, it's a perfect replica of our forefather's favorite. The top is 20"x40". Plan No. 149, 50c.

This multipurpose L-shaped style will make you the envy of your do-it-yourself friends.

It fits anywhere; in a corner furniture grouping, next to occasional chairs or sofa. Table is 13½" high, each side is 30" long. Plan No. 154, 50c.

Patterned after the traditional English butler-tray table, this design can be built with oval or scalloped apron leaves. It's light and easy to move. Special hinges hold leaves up or down.

Top is 35"x27" with leaves up. 18" high. No. 161, 50c.

You'll find a rich reward here for a few pleasant workshop hours. The table's graceful, free-form top can be cut from any of a variety of woods.

Choose one either to blend or contrast with your furnishings' decor. The table is 41" long, 12½" high. Plan No. 101, 50c.

Get these *Better Homes & Gardens* Handy Plans from your favorite hardware store or building materials dealer. To order by mail, send check or money order to 5601 Meredith Building, Des Moines 3, Iowa

5 new decorator color themes in this famous INLAID LINOLEUM by Gold Seal

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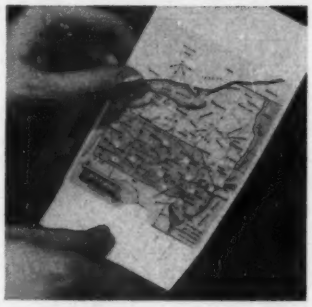
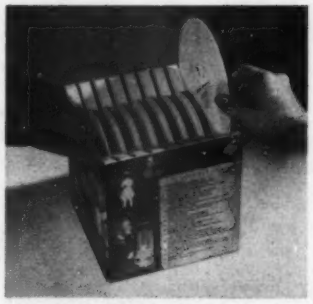
Scatter-Lite Greenhouse, $369, ppd. from mfr. General Plastics Mfg. Co., Box 65-S, Tacoma 9, Wash.



New "motion" map operates with a slide-rule insert, to give mileage distances to and from all major cities in an instant. More than 1,000 mathematical calculations are incorporated in each map, yet it fits in the palm of your hand. Map covers only a section of United States; full series of sixteen gives motoring data coast to coast.

Trip-Finder, Set of 16, $3.50 in stores. Single maps, 25c each. Sayles-Wilson, Inc., 527 W. 39th St., Kansas City, Mo.



Tin-pan alley shouldn't be the limit of your child's musical education. Introduce him to the world's really great music. Box contains eight unbreakable 78- or 45-rpm records, comprising a wide and tasteful sample of the best. Collection spotlights every composer of note who lived during the two centuries from Bach to Bartok.

A Child's Introduction to the Great Composers, $3.95, in stores. Simon and Schuster, 630 Fifth Ave., Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y.

Ironing attachment clamps to a flat surface, and helps you get after those hard-to-reach garment areas. Try it on ruffled curtains, or on the puffed sleeves of Sister's dresses. Pass fabric back and forth a few times over curved aluminum ironing head. Thermostat switch adjusts the temperature to material.

Little Smoothie, $14.95, in stores. General Metals Company, Stamford, Conn.

New cellophane tape dispenser eliminates wrinkles, waste, and sticky fingers. To use it, simply set tape end down on surface to be sealed, then draw it along with light pressure, while metal guide spreads evenly to keep tape smooth. To end seal, roll dispenser over, toothed end of guide cuts tape.

Tape Rite Tape Dispenser, 69c, in stores. Cosom Industries, Inc., 6012 Wayzata Blvd., Minneapolis 16, Minn.

More News on page 41

George L. Munger, Designer and Builder.

Another distinctive home of West Coast Lumber...

Planned for family LIVING!

You get a warm, friendly feeling every time you see this charming, modern ranch-style home. The same gracious informality greets you inside, where beautiful wood paneling extends from the cheerful kitchen through the adjoining keeping room and into the spacious living room. Yes, here is one family's idea of a home "planned for family living"!

You, too, can express your home-building ideas best by using sturdy, economical West Coast lumber. No other material is so adaptable to any plan or style...while retaining the individuality that makes it *your* home...and yours alone.

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SEND FOR BOOKLET "DISTINCTIVE HOMES"
New 24-page booklet shows wide variety of today's modern homes. Full color exterior and interior photographs of each home, and basic floor plans of each. Contains more than 50 large full color photographs, sketches and plans. A wonderful source of ideas for anyone planning to build. Send for your copy today. Only 25c. *Mail coupon at right.*

WEST COAST LUMBERMEN'S ASSN., 1410 S.W. Morrison, Room 201, Portland 5, Ore.
Please send me your 24-page full-color booklet "Distinctive Homes". I enclose 25c.

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...cleans with new WONDER POWER in your washing machine

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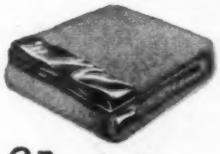
...bright white WONDER-SOFT suds give "hand-care" safety

This entirely different detergent is made specifically to give thorough yet safest possible cleaning even in your washing machine for everything from woolens...  to the new miracle fabrics... from frilly curtains to baby's diapers

At last! No more need to trust special-care washables to "work clothes" suds

Pink Dreft is different from any detergent you've ever known. It's pink, like a lotion. Yet the suds are whitest white. They feel different, too—soft and smooth like a lotion. And along with all that "hand-care" gentleness, pink Dreft's new formula also gives you added cleaning power for everything you wash with special care, by machine or by hand.

REPLACEMENT OR A REFUND OF MONEY Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping IF NOT AS ADVERTISED THEREIN

© 1956 The Procter & Gamble Co.

It's NEWS to me!

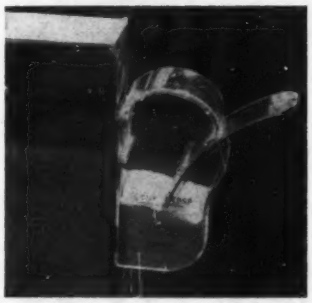
Begins on page 38

New suitcase for the woman who travels is practically a portable closet. The two compartments separate completely, and the top can be hung by a special attachment to a door top or hook, to hold up to 8 dresses and suits. Use the flat bottom compartment for packing accessories. Plastic, in many colors.

Hang-It-All is $25.00 in stores. Shwayder Bros., Inc., 1050 S. Broadway, Denver 9, Colo.

Hobby-happy youngsters can begin a new collection with a ready-made "starter set." Shell kit contains sea shells of all kinds—natica, fighting conch, star shell, sea horse, and others. Rock and mineral collection contains specimens of uranium ore, graphite, copper, quartz, jasper, and gold ore.

Young Collector's Shell Kit, Young Collector's Rock Kit, $2.95 each, in stores or from mfr. Capitol Publishing Co., Inc., Irvington, N. Y.

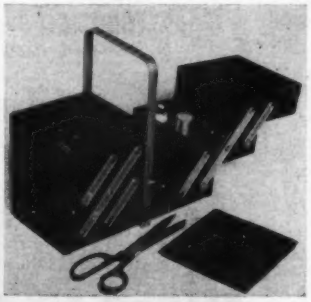


Sure-Por measuring cup ends old-fashioned, wasteful guessing. Prevents using too much soap, which clogs the washing machine, and leaves a residue on clothes. Here's a graduated device that attaches itself to the soap package and automatically minds the amount you pour—as well as your pennies. Fine for cereals, sugar, and instant-drink preparations.

Sure-Por, 49c in stores, or 50c prepaid from Dept. 29, Sure-Por Co., Inc., 1921 Shepherd St., N. W., Washington 11, D. C.

A cigarette burn on your best Chippendale table is no joke. If you've a careless smoker in the house, install this smoking stand in a strategic spot. Lighted stubs can be dropped into hole in tray, and cigarette goes out automatically, due to lack of oxygen.

Drop-M-Lit, $14.95, in stores. Nelson Products Company, Spencer, Iowa.



Hinged sewing box is a storage wonder. Closed, it's a box measuring 6x9¼x4½ inches. But with a flick of the wrist, compartments glide out to provide a wealth of space for all your sewing needs. Each compartment is fitted with adjustable dividers for easy filing of thread, hooks, or buttons. Box is black plastic, with gold-finished trimmings, handle.

Hinged Sewing Box, $2.49, in stores. Coats & Clark, Inc., 430 Park Ave., New York, N. Y.

The looking-glass girl. Alice, and her Wonderland pals are paper masks that make for a bang-up and different party theme. The amusing Lewis Carroll characters are all here; you punch out the masks and fit them together yourself. Also available are Alice in Wonderland invitation cards and three-dimensional centerpiece figures of Alice, the Mad Hatter, and the White Rabbit.

Alice in Wonderland Masks, $1, in stores. Hallmark Cards, 25th & Grand, Kansas City, Mo.

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Valuable Materials in your Old Rugs, Carpets, Clothing, etc., are scientifically reclaimed like new, sterilized, shredded, merged, pickered, bleached, blended with choice NEW CARPET WOOLS, then redyed, respun into yarn, and, *in 3 days*, woven into luxurious, new, deep-textured Reversible Broadloom Rugs or wall-to-wall Carpeting, lovely enough for even the finest homes. (9 x 12 ft. Olson Rug weighs 46 lbs., not 32 lbs.)

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Factory to You. Send your material at our expense. We Guarantee to please or pay for your materials. Over 3 million customers.

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FREE America's Greatest Money-Saving Rug and Carpet Style Catalog— and 2 GIFT Offers!

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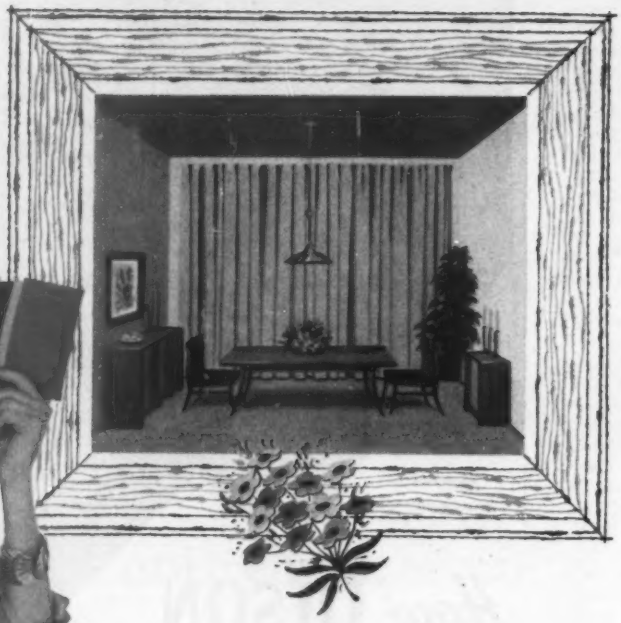
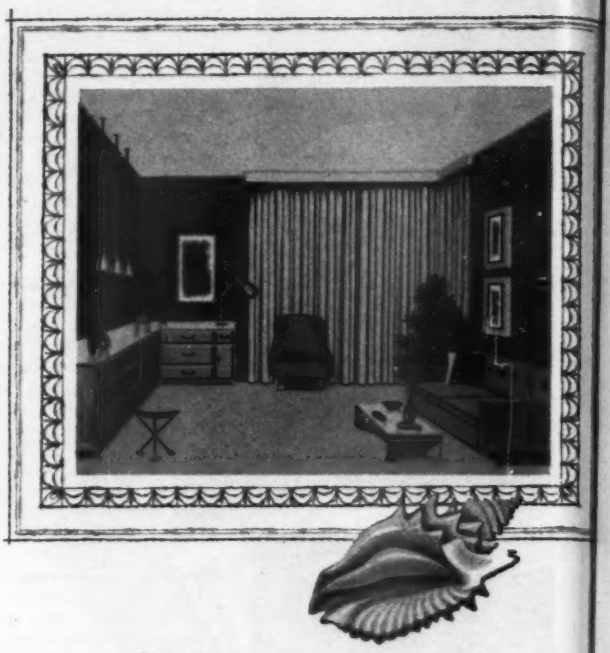
NOW–You can put more of *you* into your Home Decorating!





Pittsburgh's color magic gives you

hundreds of colors

in three high-quality interior finishes...

including Rubberized and Alkyd-Type paints for wall

and Matching Enamel for trimwork

NOW you can make your rooms as distinctive and different as you wish with hundreds of Pittsburgh's new MAESTRO COLORS to choose from. You can have the exact soft pastels that have been so hard to find, the matching in-between hues, the deep dramatic modern tones. In fact, all the *most-wanted* colors are now in your Pittsburgh Paint dealer's stock, thanks to a great new Pittsburgh Paint development.

These hundreds of MAESTRO COLORS are available in three kinds of high-quality interior finishes—WALLHIDE *Rubberized* Satin Finish and WALLHIDE *Alkyd-Type* Flat for walls and SATINHIDE Enamel for woodwork. All three paints are easy to use, have no unpleasant odor and can be washed again and again.

With such a wide range of colors you can harmonize walls and trim more interestingly with carpets and drapery and upholstery fabrics. You can plan new and exciting rooms with colors never before available.

Whether you plan to "do it yourself" or hire a painter—you'll enjoy selecting your MAESTRO COLORS from the hundreds now carried by your Pittsburgh Paint dealer.

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• *This handy Color Selector at your Pittsbu Paint dealer's shows you the hundreds of MAEST COLORS at a glance. Choose the color chips want—if you wish, take them home for further sta*

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56 holiday hospitality ideas

What to serve . . . recipes . . . new table accessories

BE "AT HOME" to your friends this gala season. Ask them over for a bite after the movies or ice skating—for a dessert bridge—for Sunday night supper. And how about the kids throwing a party for their pals? To help you put out the welcome mat, we bring you suggestions galore—here and on the next eight pages—from simple snacks to buffet meals. Let's start the festivities by getting in line for the super snack, below

By Myrna Johnston

"Step up, folks, for a Sizzling Steak Canape!"

The invitation: to stop by, around five. The party: easy snacks (but humdingers). There's no fuss in the kitchen. Save those rosebuds and frills for summer teas!

For the Sizzling Steak Canapes, all you do is broil a juicy strip steak. (Recipe's on page 82.) While guests watch, Dad carves, flips each hot, mouth-watering slice on a thin round of salty rye.

To go with these sturdy tidbits: Tomato Cocktail and relishes (kept crispy on crushed ice or *snow*). Cheers from the men—and the lady weight-watchers!

Turn page for on-the-spot cooking and buffet entertaining

Happy
New
Year

Hospitality ideas *Continued*

Open house! "For auld lang syne, my dear . . ."

TO THE steaming cup of punch, add the warmth of good fellowship. Here we offer refreshments for five jolly get-togethers: Sunshine Toddy with Ribbon Sandwiches (left); Cranberry Punch (jumbo cup); Tomato Cocktail with Bacon Bites; Pineapple Wassail and Hot Spiced Tea (twin bottles) with Sugar-ball Cookies, and Eggnog with fruitcake

Recipes start on page 82

Turn page for more parties

Photograph: Snook, Photography, Inc.

Hospitality ideas *Continued*

Nothing's friendlier than a festive buffet or a cook-at-the-table supper

Here you turn the cooking over to your chafing dish. Guests ladle Company Rabbit over hot chow-mein noodles, pick up a few carrot curls and celery fans. Coffee brews, then stays piping in the percolator

Chicken Italian bubbles lazily in the electric skillet (good cooker and good server—keeps seconds hot, too). Toss the Green Salad at the table. For dessert, fold mincemeat into softened vanilla ice cream, then freeze firm

Photographs: Snook, Photography, Inc.

COOK-AT-THE-TABLE MEALS, like the three you see on this page, let the hostess chat with her friends, yet keep an eye on what's cooking. So get out those handsome electric appliances Santa left you for Christmas and put them in action.

A BUFFET supper means a good time for all. Guests go for the casual informality. You like the pretty picture your table makes, the easy serving—each food arranged for "pick up."

Recipes start on page 82

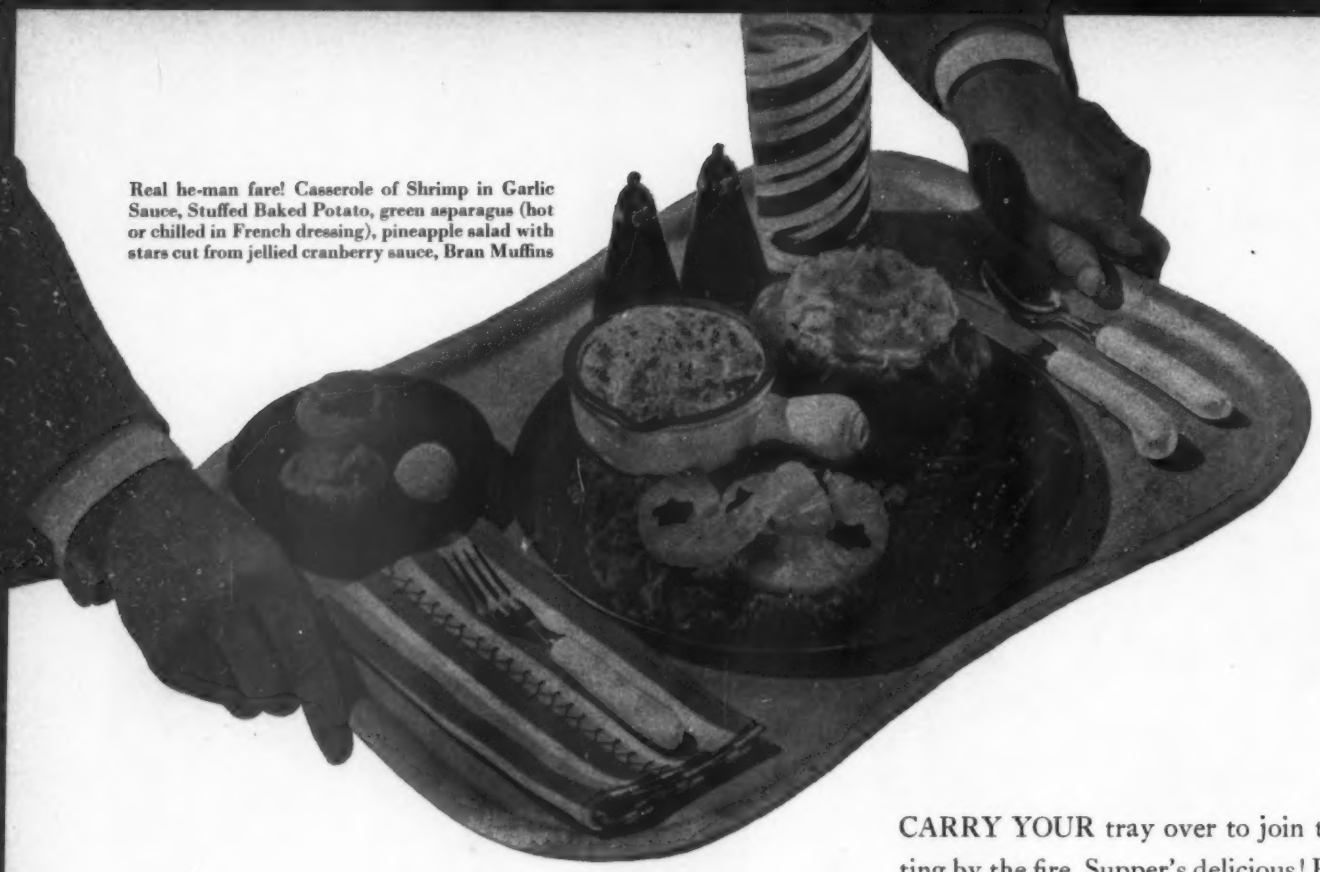
←

Circle 'round, everyone, and help yourself to a generous slice of the fruit-bedecked Glazed Baked Ham. Lift the cover of the copper chafing dish and you'll find a casserole of Scalloped Potatoes keeping toasty—take a big spoonful. Now for the Winter Garden Salad.

Dessert time, return to the table for a beautiful wedge of Angel Pineapple Torte (fixed day ahead) and a cup of fragrant coffee.

Rotisserie Supper. Dad will slice the big Bologna (could be boned ham), temptingly browned from its merry-go-round ride on the spit. Buttered sweets, pineapple grill atop. Green beans keep warm on rotisserie's bake tray

Nibbles for the snack table, tray meals, next page



Real he-man fare! Casserole of Shrimp in Garlic Sauce, Stuffed Baked Potato, green asparagus (hot or chilled in French dressing), pineapple salad with stars cut from jellied cranberry sauce, Bran Muffins

Hospitality ideas *Continued*

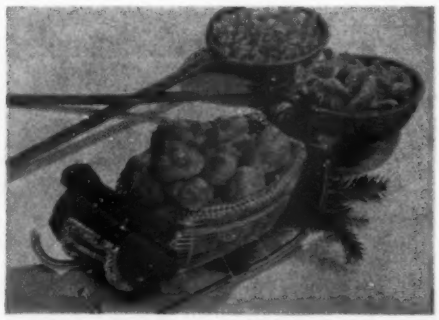
CARRY YOUR tray over to join the group sitting by the fire. Supper's delicious! Pitch right in! For tray meals, it's best to choose easy-to-eat foods (skip the kind that need a knife) and serve buffet style. What to have? Select from this trio

Recipes start on page 82

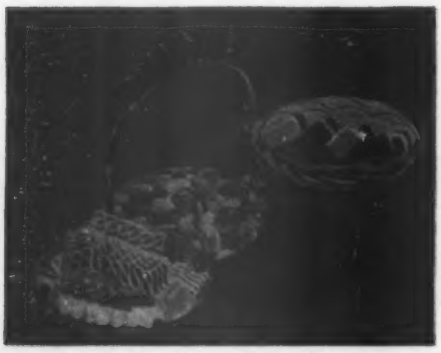
Simple snacks go over big! Keep the fixin's on tap for holiday callers

Serve in gala style, and a bite to eat becomes an event. Tall glasses tell time from Paris to Calcutta!

Chafing dish holds melted butter (with garlic clove). Dip the Toasty Rye Curls—recipe's easy. M-m-m!



Gold sleigh offers Tiny Cream Puffs (filling's turkey salad). Baskets give host a boarding-house reach



Three-tiered brass server makes pretty display of your holiday candy and nuts. It folds to stow away

Talk about quick! And good eating! Set out a husky wedge of Cheddar, crackers, fruit. Fall to, everyone!

Pinocchio plays pretzel man while his bitsy helpers spear cheese squares. In bowl: Blue-cheese Snow

Turkey a la King sports parsley-covered toast tree for crunch. Easy Hollandaise tops the broccoli. Salad's orange slices, stewed prunes plump with cream cheese. For dessert, Hansel and Gretel cookies. (Peekaboo trays are fun for game room.)

No need to be jumping jacks at dinner. Takes just one tour of the buffet table to corral a complete meal. Main dish is a tempting Ham-loaf Cup, Cherry Sauce spooned over. Accompaniments: buttered sweet potatoes, Green Beans Almond, carrot curls, glossy ripe olives. Dessert: Cream Puff with Fudge Sauce, hot coffee

Photographs: Snook, Photography, Inc.

Turn page for open-house specials

From nightcap nibbles to good-morning eye-openers

For latecomers—Caramel Crunch, fat apples and pears, walnuts to crack, cocoa in pottery "goblets"

Lazy Susan breakfast: orange rounds, crisp bacon, scrambled eggs, muffins (or toast), butter balls, jam

Spear a Stuffed Mushroom and Vienna sausage. In twin candle-warmed casserole: buttered cereal mix

56 holiday hospitality ideas *continued*

Give kiddies the thrill of a New Year's party all their own

WHEE! LOOKY here—a Giant Sugar Cooky for each boy and girl. (Names are written with candy red hots.) The little miss with the pony tail is helping herself to a Jam-jar Sundae (vanilla ice cream, strawberry jam, sugar wafers—all in a paper dessert dish). Near the noise-makers are Popcorn Crackers—each is a trio of tiny popcorn balls in cellophane. Cocoa is in paper hot-drink cups. (Mother, you celebrate, too. Everything's easy to fix, and no dishes!)

Recipes start on page 82

Evening refreshments to serve after 10 —take your choice of these lovelies

DELIGHT YOUR bridge club or TV watchers with a luscious surprise. The cheese tray: Center with a grape-festooned candelabra (fasten grapes on with pipe cleaners or florist's wire). Offer assorted cheeses (at room temperature)—wedge of blue, a Gouda, roll of smoky spread, sharp Cheddar, Camembert—fruits, chilled and sectioned, crisp crackers. The make-ahead refrigerator desserts are: Holiday Cheese Cake, Eggnog Parfait Tarts, and Peppermint Pie with Chocolate Shell.

Photograph: Snook, Photography, Inc.

Beryl and Rene Williams

You have everything to gain (in ideas and prizes) from what you see on these pages!

This is the year to improve your home

THE YEAR 1956 promises to be the best ever for you to improve your home and surroundings. Home improvement is literally being shouted from the house tops. You'll be hearing it from national organizations, civic groups, manufacturers, tradesmen, local and federal government agencies . . . even from the president himself.

There'll be exciting new materials to tempt you, improved equipment, and many helpful services. Loan money for home improvement projects large and small should become more available.

To supply you with ideas and information—then to recognize and reward your efforts—*Better Homes and Gardens* here introduces a year-long Home Improvement Contest. Be sure to read the half-page at right. It explains the contest fully. We believe the following pages—and issues to come—will help make this the year you do big things for your home.

You can improve your home by improving area around it

You've got a new home, you say, and how to improve on that? Look out your window. If it's as bleak as scene above (taken in January) start now aiming for results like those you see at right (same spot in July).

Things to do right away: plan what building you'll do—things like that dipping pool, or the plant boxes. Start these jobs inside while weather's still wintry. Check catalogs. List and order needed plant materials. Draw planting plan. After final frost, dig in!

Don't forget to take a roll of "before" pictures now. Aim where changes will occur. Improvements of this type go in "Exteriors."

Owners: Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lauer, Jr.

BETTER HOMES & GARDENS

1956 Home Improvement Contest

$25,000.00

in cash prizes

HERE'S HOW TO ENTER

This contest covers any improvement to your home and surrounding property. There are four divisions—Exteriors, Interiors, Additions, and Kitchen-Utility areas—explained in detail further on. You are officially entered in the contest when we receive a *Preliminary Entry Form*. Besides the one printed below, there'll be others available in following issues of *Better Homes & Gardens*, as well as through retail stores and financial institutions cooperating as contest headquarters.

Contest closes midnight, December 31, 1956. It is not necessary to buy a copy of *Better Homes & Gardens* to enter.

Once we receive your Preliminary Entry Form, you'll be sent—free—a 32-page, beautifully illustrated book, full of ideas to help you with your project. This book contains a wealth of information in full color on landscaping, planning, remodeling, painting, furnishing. With this book will be a *Final Entry Form* to be filled out and mailed back to us after you complete your project.

Included in the Final Entry Form will be space for all the project information needed by our judges, plus room for before-and-after snapshots, floor plans, and other description.

Send this coupon today for free, 32-page Contest Ideas Book, plus list of other helpful booklets, a Final Entry Form, and complete contest rules.

PRELIMINARY ENTRY FORM—HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTEST

To the Contest Editor, *Better Homes & Gardens*,
Des Moines 3, Iowa

Please enter my name in your 1956 Home Improvement Contest and send me my book and Final Entry Form. I have checked below the division or divisions I intend to enter.

Name .....
(please print)

Street and No. .....

City ..... **Zone** ..... **State** .....

☐ **Exteriors** ☐ **Additions**

☐ **Interiors** ☐ **Kitchen-Utility areas**

1 **It is not necessary to buy a copy of Better Homes & Gardens to enter this contest**

Divisions of the Better Homes & Gardens Home Improvement Contest are as follows:

1. EXTERIORS: Any improvement from lot line to lot line that makes for a more attractive outside picture, a more useful house and yard. Among many examples: General improvement of house's appearance, such as done by painting, roofing, re-siding. Improvement of design by removal or redesign, say, trimming back an old-fashioned overhang to a more modern roof. Development of any detached structures like garage, garden-storage unit, workshop. Also garden architecture: a trellis, fence, or any improvement through use of plants, trees, shrubs. A pool or a play yard.

2. INTERIORS: All improvements within confines of existing house, except a kitchen or utility area. This includes improving beauty and practicality of rooms through new furnishings, decorating, papering, and painting. Examples: A dining room made into a family room; bedroom space from a formerly unfinished attic. Updating a bathroom, improving a window area. Putting basement to better use through redesigning, rearrangement—including heating, air conditioning, plumbing equipment. Smaller improvements like a new fireplace, or updating of an old one. Resurfacing a wall or floor.

3. ADDITIONS: Any new, enclosed space attached to your house. Examples: A bedroom added to the present house, added space for a bathroom, provision for a family room, a vestibule entry with extra storage, a covered porch, an attached greenhouse.

4. KITCHEN-UTILITY AREAS: This covers all kitchens and/or utility areas either remodeled from present space or added, or both. Examples: Better arrangement and updating of kitchen equipment. Increasing kitchen efficiency through better traffic, storage, and work areas. Adding eating space in kitchen. Relocation of utility area to more convenient spot. Your kitchen and utility area may be separate or combined. Repainting and redecorating count as much here as elsewhere.

Remember, you choose the division for your project. Then, after we receive your Final Entry Form, our judges will decide into which of four classes in each division it goes. These classes (A-B-C-D under each division) are based on the scope of the project itself. Thus, all entries compete only with others of equal scope. *A small, inexpensive improvement will have the same chance to win a prize as a large, costly project.*

You may enter more than one division. Example: If you make an addition to your present house for a kitchen, you might choose to enter your project in both "Additions" and "Kitchen-Utility" divisions. Sections of a larger project, taking in a whole house and lot, might be entered in each of the four divisions. Separate Final Entry Forms must be used for *each* entry in cases such as this. Contest editor will supply extra Final Entry Forms on request.

CONTEST PRIZES

Project divisions	Classes	128 Qualifying winners	16 Division winners
1. Exteriors (Lot line to lot line.)	A	eight $100 winners	field of 32 for division prizes: A $500
	B	eight $100 winners	B $500
	C	eight $100 winners	C $500
	D	eight $100 winners	D $500
2. Interiors (Existing space except kitchen or utility room.)	A	eight $100 winners	field of 32 for division prizes: A $500
	B	eight $100 winners	B $500
	C	eight $100 winners	C $500
	D	eight $100 winners	D $500
3. Additions (New, enclosed space attached to house.)	A	eight $100 winners	field of 32 for division prizes: A $500
	B	eight $100 winners	B $500
	C	eight $100 winners	C $500
	D	eight $100 winners	D $500
4. Kitchens and Utility rooms (Separate or combined.)	A	eight $100 winners	field of 32 for division prizes: A $500
	B	eight $100 winners	B $500
	C	eight $100 winners	C $500
	D	eight $100 winners	D $500

Plus Best-of-Contest Awards

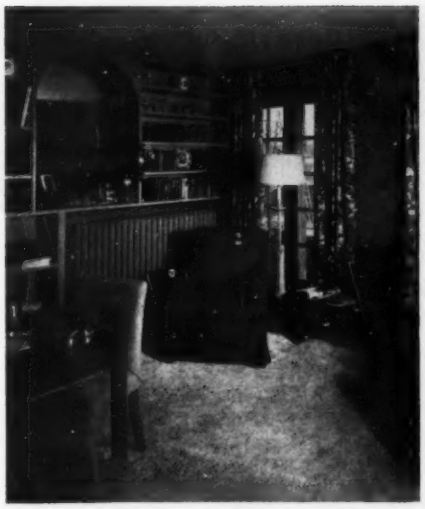
1st PRIZE of $2,500

2nd PRIZE of $1,000

3rd PRIZE of $700

When our judges award the $25,000.00 prize money, they'll first choose 128 "Qualifying winners." This group will consist of eight winners in *each* class of *each* division. From these qualifiers, 16 "Division winners" will be chosen, this group being composed of a single winner for each class in each division. Finally, these 16 division winners will compete against each other for the "Best of Contest" awards—1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

For additional prizes, see page 145



Photographs: Hedrich-Blessing. Decorator: James Adler. Data: Ruth Lee. Owners: The Louis Lepmans

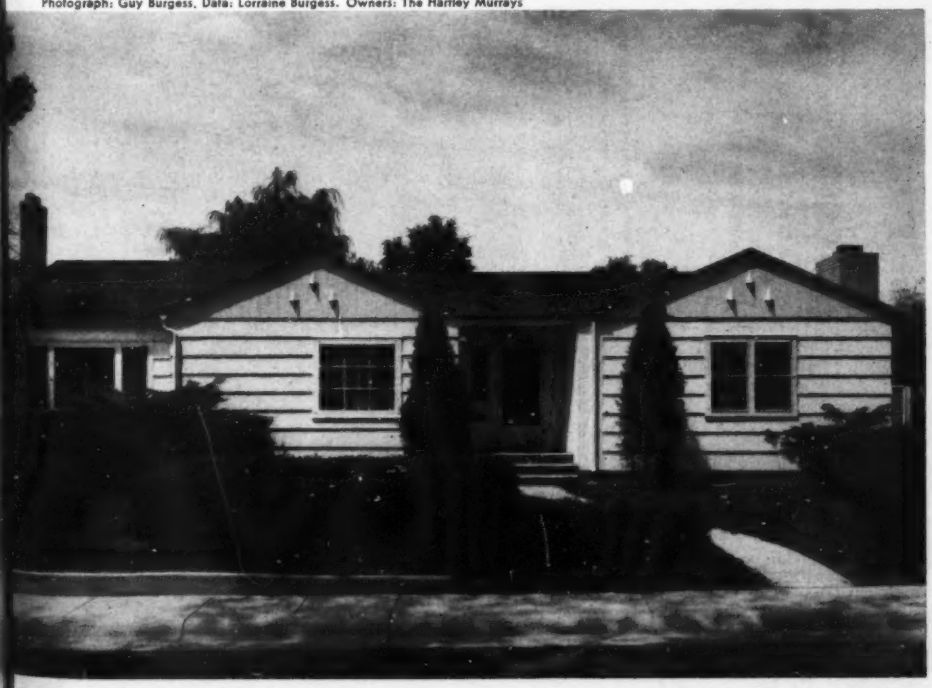
"Spot treatment" eventually improves your whole home

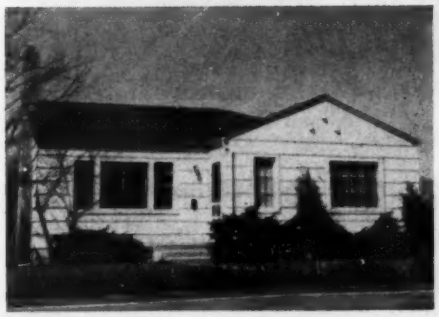
Most folks lack time or funds to achieve every home improvement they'd like in one big push. Solution? Try a one-spot-at-a-time program like this family did.

Before, their study had a dated, meaningless arch open to living room. Exposed radiator was unattractive dust-display. Gray walls, accessories needed new life.

Now, sealed archway forms smart, functional cabinet. Since updating, the room has become more of a family area, so now there's a TV set and snack bar behind handsome, brass-handled doors. Radiator disappeared behind grill. Painted black, unit accents lighter wall, carpet tone.

Photograph: Guy Burgess. Data: Lorraine Burgess. Owners: The Hartley Murrays





This family needed space. Their improvement is a major one

A five-room start soon proved a false one for this growing family. By buying half the next lot they got space to double the house.

Some conveniences they gained: Entry hall with closet, kitchen with dinette, a rear living room with what was neglected view.

This is a case where the owners could enter their improvement project in both the "Exteriors" and "Additions" divisions.

Photograph: de Gennaro. Owners: The Ralph M. Prices

Check this fireplace as example of what one wall improved will do for an entire room

Windows aren't always the answer to brightening up a room. This living room above had them flanking fireplace, but dull effect of books and bricks offset light brought in by otherwise useless openings.

So windows were covered. (They're hidden outside by fixed shutters). Less elaborate frame was placed around fireplace. Mantel was lengthened, hearth redesigned. Entire end of room was paneled, painted a clean white. Bookshelves were removed. Wood storage cabinet was built into space.

Architect: Ames Ross. Owners: The Byron Knapps

Opening up your house to take advantage of a view can be an exciting home improvement

You probably won't start with semifinished house like this. But you may share problem of narrow windows with small, hard-to-clean panes that just about wreck the view.

Large, two-section window now opens entire end of living room to beauty beyond. Interior is improved to point where it almost equals outside appeal. Handsome walls are result of placing insulation between studs, nailing on gypsum board, applying mahogany veneer. Ceiling is gypsum board painted charcoal so the walls and exposed beams stand out.

Photographs: Suter, Hedrich-Blessing. Architect: W. D. Riddle. Owners: The Thomas Van Denbergs

Pride, beauty, space, value all rise in this updating

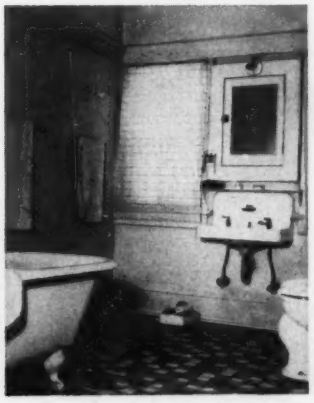
The house at right probably reminds you of a dozen others you've seen just like it. It takes on real individuality, however, with addition of a balancing bedroom wing and new paint job.

Addition blends with original house as smoothly as the paint went on. This was done by offsetting addition slightly, then bringing roof line across the face of original house. This area added to old house becomes a bay for dining room and shelter for entry.

Note how use of white brings out fine lines of shutters and windows.

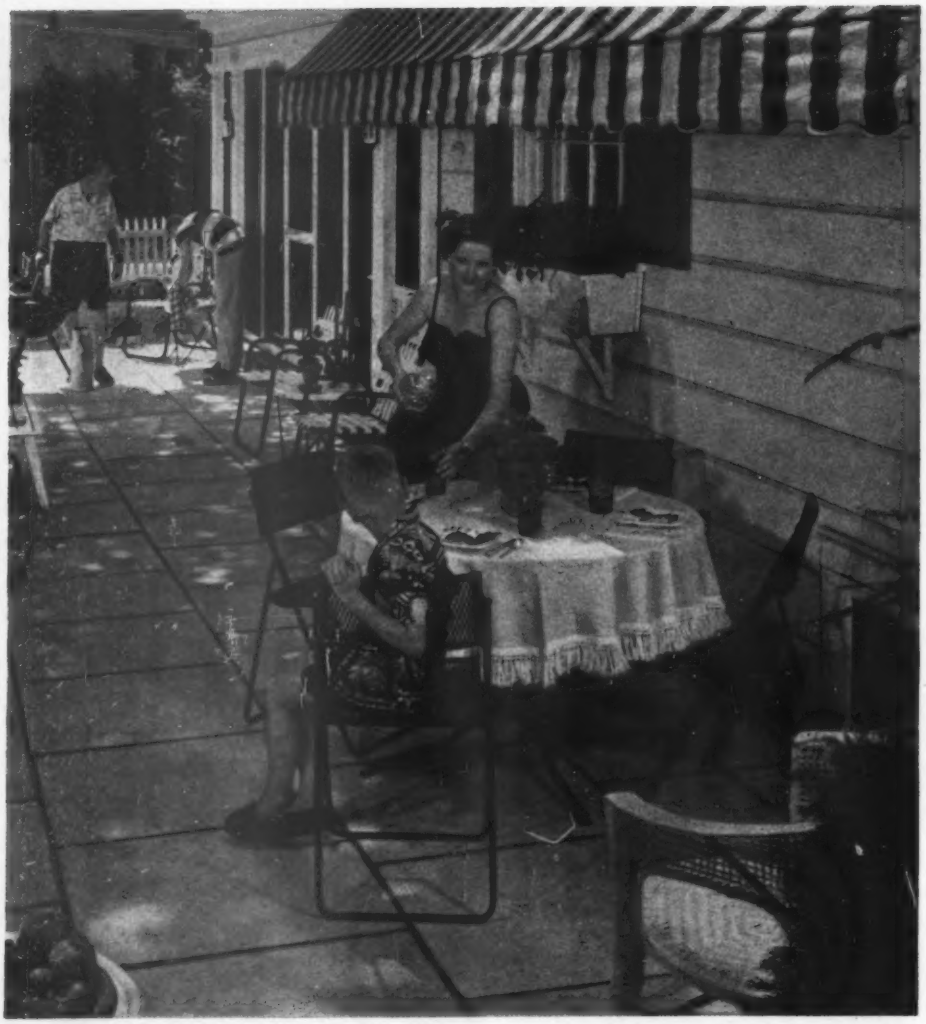
Photographs: Baskerville; Norman. Owners: Mr. and Mrs. George Parrish

Modern materials, fixtures, ingenuity make it easy to achieve results like improvement of this bath



Before, a bath with little eye-appeal and even less storage. What would not go in medicine cabinet, or hang on towel rack, just didn't have a place at all.

Owners designed, built storage up to window, surrounded lavatory with counter. Windows are same, but medicine cabinet, light fixtures are new. Vanity, mirror are added between cabinets and tub. Fixtures have all been updated.

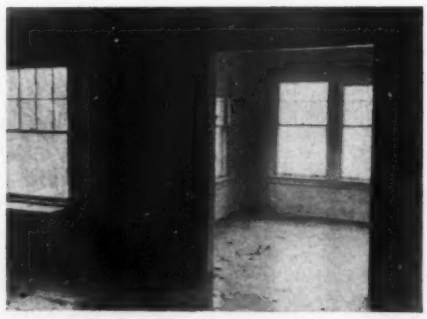


This family met challenge of improvement inside and out

When the John McLaughlins first moved in their Winnetka, Illinois, home, it looked like picture above. This side of house was a puzzle. Was it a service yard? Garden? Overgrown shrubbery had reduced walk to a one-way path.

Now, house beyond is almost only feature that labels this the same spot! Shrubs are chopped back to decorate, not dominate. No more grasping for grass on this shady strip. It's now neatly and precisely paved with sturdy concrete slabs. Bright awning, furniture add color and comfort.

Photographs: Suter, Hedrich-Blessing. Data: Ruth Lee



Open one room—improve two

Call it solarium, parlor, music room, or whatever. Room above is a dead-end annex to living room; an area that's long since lost its right to use up valuable space.

Widening opening to each wall makes isolated area part of living room. Both profit from merger. Formerly set-off space is now bright conversation corner. Living room is enlarged, enlivened by windows. Beam across opening supports weight.

This would go in "Interiors" division.

A logical spot to start home improvement is in the kitchen. Study these fine results

Equipment and design have taken big steps since this kitchen was built. Usual fault—storage—was adequate. But room looked more like country store than kitchen.

Structural changes were held to a minimum. Remodeled kitchen is now a pleasant, efficient place thanks to stained pine cabinets, up-to-date appliances, and Mrs. McLaughlin's decorating talents.

New storage includes a utility closet (left) which puts cleaning supplies near door to living area.

BEFORE

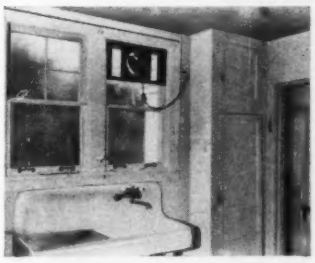
AFTER

Improvement's easy with new equipment

A good kitchen—15 years ago. Nowadays, who'd settle for a sink that stands on storklike legs? What homemaker would tolerate such poor lighting? Look at that hard-to-reach cabinet at upper right!

New sink boasts waste disposer, dishwasher, and storage, yet takes no more space than old one. Counter top brings color into the kitchen, is stain-resistant work surface. Kitchen now includes charming, roomy eating area, too.

BEFORE



AFTER

Ripping out or adding on isn't everything. Furnishings mean a lot to home improvement

Hard to see an attractive dining room when looking at this as the McLaughlins did the first time.

It didn't take much structural change, but lots of imagination and advance planning.

Folding shutter doors now replace French doors across room. They give privacy to the room beyond which became a study. New furnishings, excitingly set against a new carpet, show how important they are to updating.

There's

Guest-room pretty bedding will say welcome even though your weekend visitor sleeps in the living room. Try several color schemes, your guest's favorite colors, or your own.

Electrified bedding lets the guest set the temperature, yet there's only one blanket for you to store away.

Here's a handful of the newest bedding and towels with pointers on how to choose

Sheets: *For quicker bedmaking, fitted corners; for luxurious comfort, combed yarns; for gaiety, new colors and prints*

Blankets: *For washability, new fibers; for dash, reversible patterns; for air-conditioned rooms, lightweight wool, cotton*

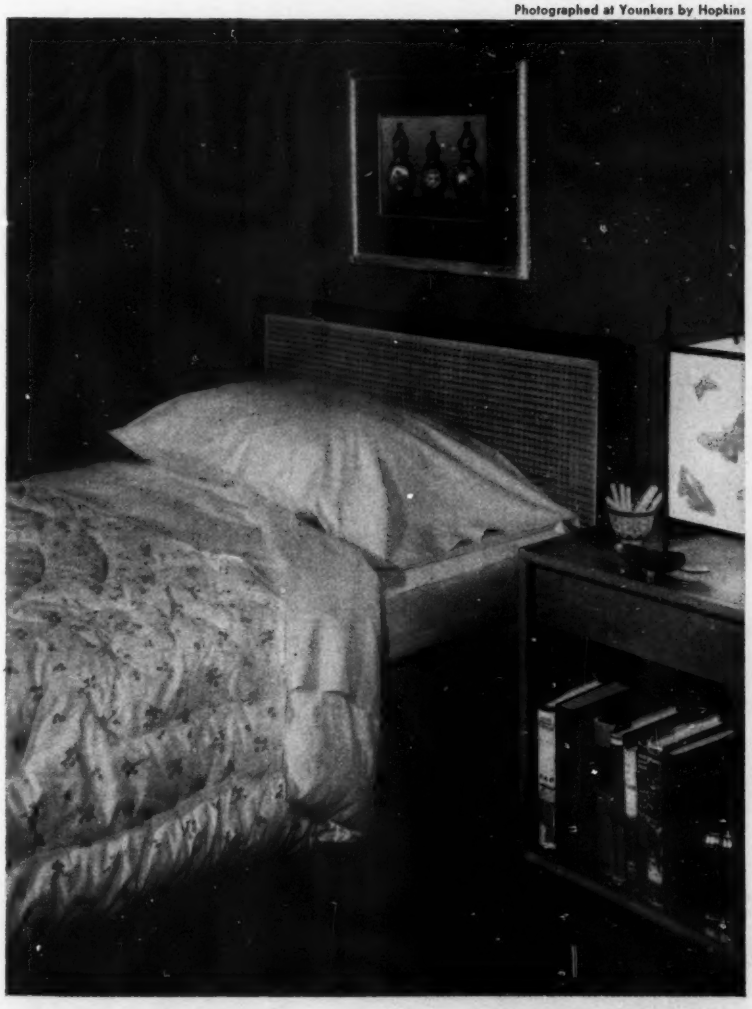
Towels: *For novelty, metallic stripes are nontarnishing and nonscratch; for luxury, combed yarns, closer loops, and larger sizes*

a rainbow at your fingertips

By Florence Byerly

COLORS are oh-so-pretty in towels and bedding! Makes you feel like an artist every time you hang out a fresh assortment of towels, choose a change of sheets and blankets. Dyes are lasting, stay fresh with today's laundry methods. If you began housekeeping back in the days of the bleach-it-white trousseau, it's time to bring your linen closet up to date with color. Start by choosing two or three colors which combine well, then get a set in each. For example, two sets of sheets, two different-colored blankets, mix or match to form four color schemes.

Photographed at Younkers by Hopkins



Monograms add personality. On page 112 we show you how to decorate either towels or bed linens, using your own zigzag sewing machine or attachment. Metallic stripes pictured are soft, washable, come in either gold or silver color

Man-made fibers change the bedding news. Comforter is downy-warm and light, machine-washable because it's filled with synthetic fibers.

Left are no-iron nylon sheets, either woven or tricot knit.

Quick-change color schemes for bedroom and bath on next page

Tired of your old bedroom? Try these quick-change color schemes

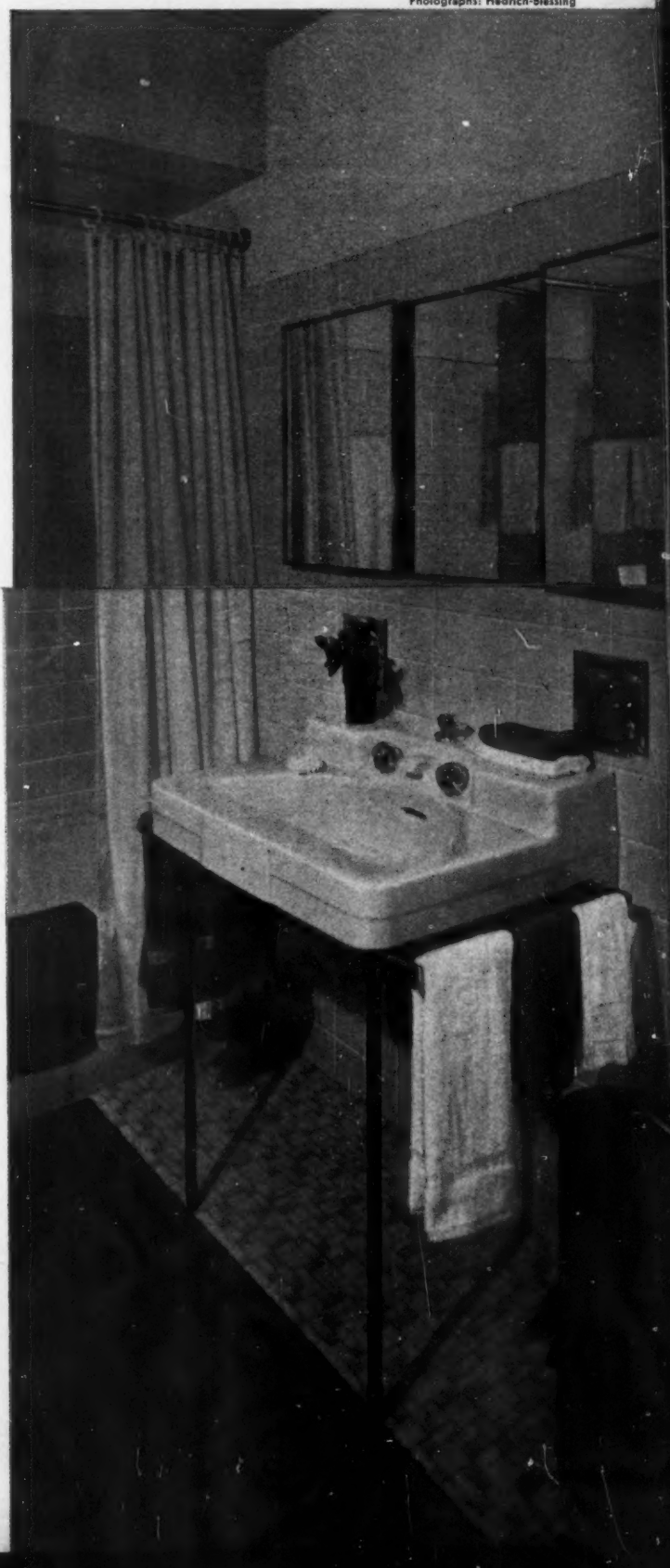
Which of the three bedrooms below do you like the best? All the color changes were quick to buy because spreads, dust-ruffles, and curtains are ready-mades. No delays for sewing. Just hurry home with your packages. Quick to install, too. A couple of us changed bedding, curtains, even rug in a half hour. How would you like to do a quick change before guests arrive? Or maybe you'd like one scheme for summer, another for winter?

Colored towels will quick-change a bath, are easy on the budget

For all-white bath, we built one scheme around striped towels echoed with plain. Another copied a playful rug with fishy appliques (see how to sew on page 112). Last scheme cost less than $15 for rug plus rack of towels.

Colored fixtures or tile sets the basic color scheme, so blend colors with it, or repeat it, or use neutrals. First scheme blends red with pink towels, the next is all pink. Last stresses the neutrals, gray, black, and white.

Photographs: Hedrich-Blessing



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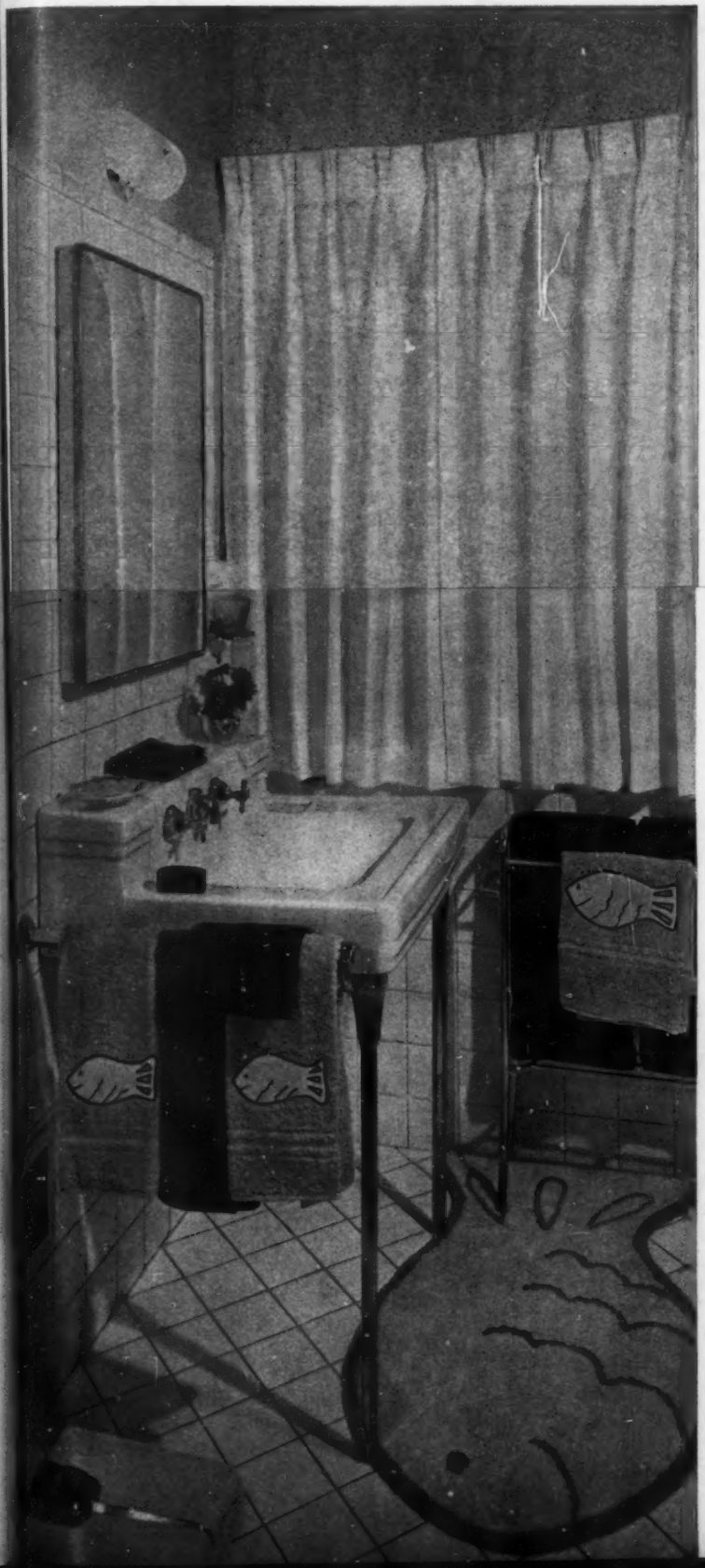
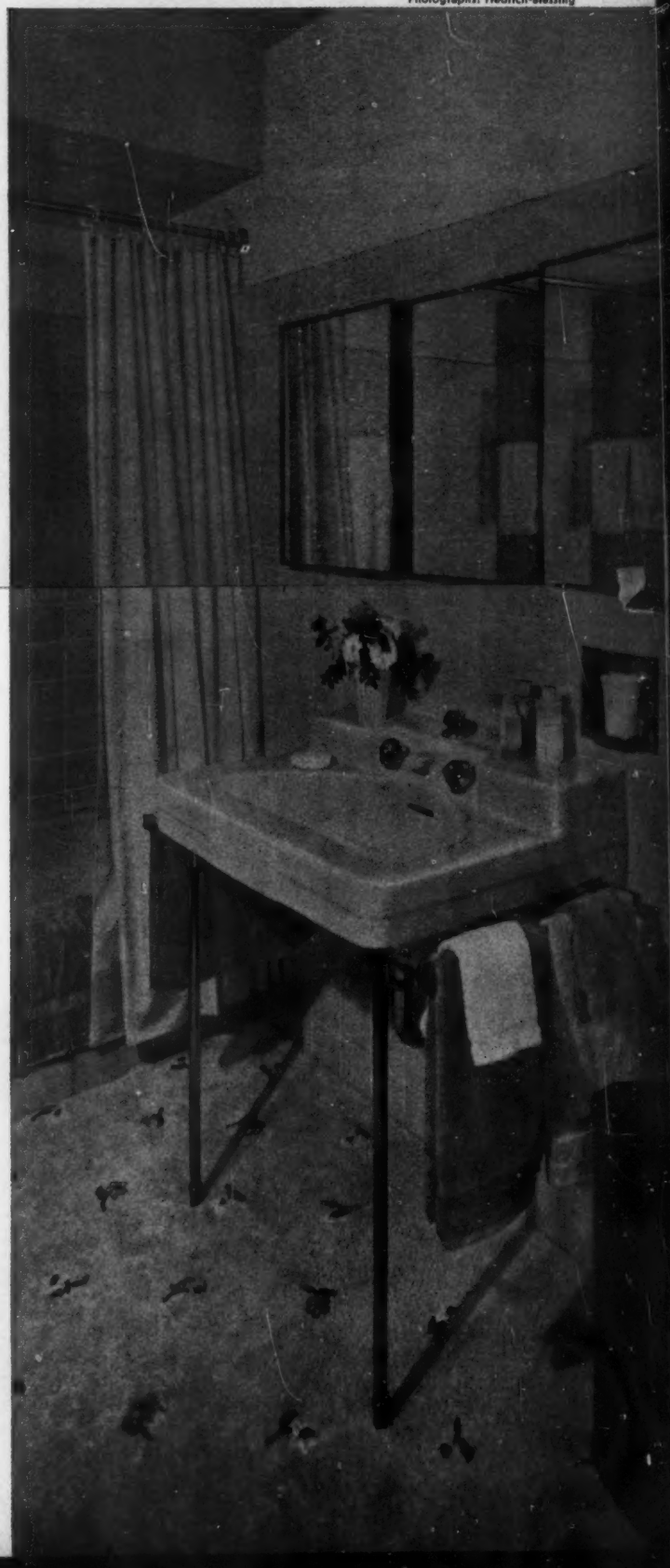
Photographs: Hedrich-Blessing





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Photographs: Hedrich-Blessing

More super-roads coming!

How are we going to pay for them? What about toll roads? Where will they be built? Will existing roads be neglected? Here's the big picture of things to come

By Edward D. Fales, Jr.

This year you'll be able to hop into your car, set your speed at 60, and "cruise" halfway across America—without "nerves" or fatigue, and without getting into a single traffic jam.

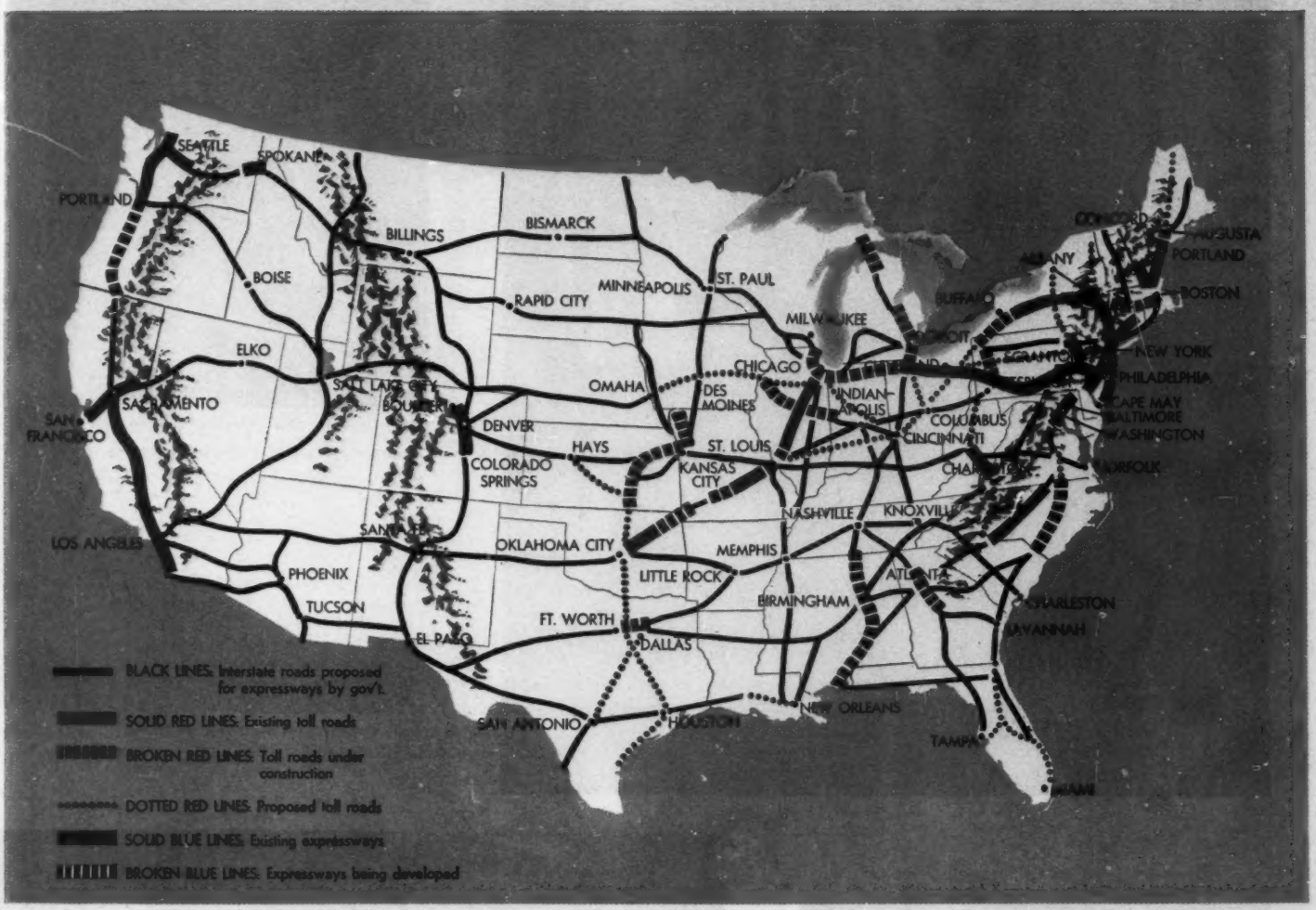
You'll be on one-way ribbons of highway so wide and safe that your whole family can feel free from strain and worry. With ordinary care you should never have a frightening brush with another car. For the first time you'll be free from those "close calls" that plague us all on the narrow roads we've been used to.

For 1956 is ushering in a whole new era of safe, fast travel.

This month you can use nonstop roads all the way from Indiana to Manhattan—700 miles. By November you'll go much farther. Starting in Oklahoma, if you wish, you'll go right through to Augusta, Maine, where the "north woods" begin. That's 2,100 miles—and for 1,800 you'll roll on modern 4-lane expressways, divided down the middle for safety.

Except for a few gaps, mostly between St. Louis and Joplin, Missouri, you'll never meet a car coming your way. You'll never be blocked by slow trucks, or surprised by sudden curves. From Chicago to Boston *you won't pass under a single traffic light*. Eventually there won't be a light or crossroad on the entire route. But all this is only a foretaste of the great "cruiseways" that are coming—and coming fast. This month many new super-roads are in use—it remains only to link them up.

Thus for the first time we are beginning to escape from roads that have dotted our landscape with death. Everywhere this year people are talking about toll roads. In 18



Drawing: Joe Pearson

Toll roads, financed by private investors, will be completed first. Motorists traveling "nonstop" from New York to Chicago will cover 826 miles for $10. Interstate highways will come more slowly. The United States super-road plan does not call for curtailing federal assistance for farm-to-market highways

states more than 1,600 miles are in use—and 1,100 miles more are being built.

Meanwhile in Washington this month Congress tackles a 4,000-mile plan for interstate super-roads to lace together every large city. If this plan goes through, you'll see new freeways being built in your state—possibly within a year.

For sale: Fast travel

"In every state," said a United States road expert, "plans are ready and engineers are waiting to see what Congress will do." But not all states are waiting. So acute is the need that 18 states have embarked in the business of *selling* you fast, safe travel.

They're doing this by setting up business agencies known as "toll-road authorities." These borrow millions of dollars, hire dozens (or sometimes hundreds) of contractors, and blast through modern roads in record time.

"In 2 years," said one engineer, "we can build a 200-mile super-road that couldn't be built in 20 years with tax money."

There's a lot of debate about whether this is good. But the fact is, it's being done. The state of Kansas badly needs new roads between Kansas City, Topeka, and Wichita—and that's 236 miles.

"We opened for business here in Topeka in December, 1954," says a Kansas engineer. "On Christmas Eve we let our first contract."

"Today we have over 250 separate contracts going and we'll have the road open this coming October—*just 22 months from the day we started work*."

Today this super-road project stands alone. But in a few years it will be the mid-link in a fast network linking Duluth, Dallas, Ft. Worth, and Mexico.

You and your family will be able to enjoy long-trip comfort such as you've never known.

Where are the other new super-roads today? Which can you use now—and where are others being built? Which are tollways and which are free?

Here's the picture in a nutshell:

"Until recently," says one official, "California's fine-roads program made the rest of the country look sick. But at last the East and Midwest are catching up."

▶ Ohio, a few months ago, opened its 241-mile cross-state toll road—two great ribbons of one-way road that whisk you between the Indiana border and the Pennsylvania turnpike in 4 hours. Now for the first time Midwest and East are linked for modern travel.

▶ In June, Indiana will open another link: a 50-mile piece of its own cross-state toll pike, connecting in eastern Indiana with the new Ohio road.

▶ In November, Indiana will push this great new toll pike (total length: 156 miles) west to meet Chicago's growing new Calumet Skyway—and cars from New England, New York, and Washington, D. C., can roll virtually nonstop to Chicago's Loop.

▶ Far to the east, meanwhile, Massachusetts is blasting two more ribbons across the Berkshire Mountains. In August, the Massachusetts toll road will open—and Boston will have a 123-mile cruiseway to tie in with New York State's new 510-mile toll Thruway to the west. [*Turn to page 130*

Orchids are the all-year hobby of "Q" Brewer—first, big, showy cattleyas, but prize cymbidiums like Peri Beefeater, too

1 This is the long view of the Brewer's flower border as seen from the dining room. Very roughly, this border and the house have the same relation that your upper and lower lashes do when your eyes are open.

An informal hedge of Fashion roses marks the very abrupt drop-off at the far edge of the flower bed.

Photographs: de Gennaro. Landscape architect: Peggy Sullivan

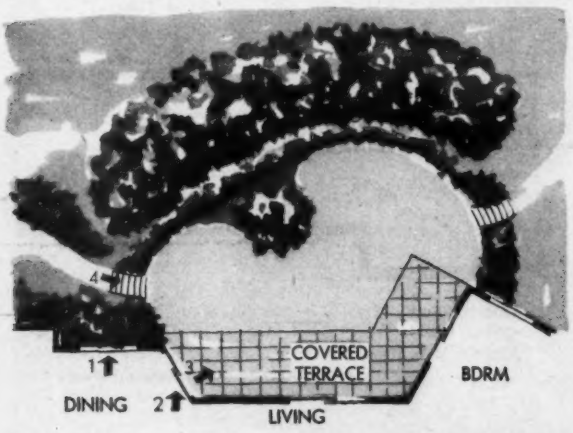
Living-room windows on streetside look out on this bank planted with fascinating and easy-to-grow succulents. Colors are mostly grays and yellows and go nicely with the retaining wall of broken concrete paving. Path leads visitors around front of wall. Street is just beyond top of picture

2 Colors of house and garden are harmonious because Mrs. Brewer matched them with colors in fabric of this chair. Divider between living room and dining areas holds these tropical greens, seems to bring the garden itself right into the house. Iceland poppies, violas and pansies, snapdragons, calendulas, iris, and roses keep fresh yellows and orange always in sight. Fruit trees occupy lower slope

3 Lush green of the tiny lawn sets off both the flowers and the warmer colors in the furnishings of this sheltered and so-comfortable porch. Effect of roominess is contrived by having porch floor and lawn the same level, by using the same colors, and by bringing sizable pot plants right onto the porch

Flowers always in sight

YOU MUST NEVER give up, no matter how cramped your space is, if you really want to grow flowers. You can make space as the family here did. They found space where there was none, by stair-stepping their land. Now they have all this we show—and more. You can use their method—or invent your own



Flower plot on Quentin Brewer place measures only 32'x8'. Below it, land falls steeply some 500 feet into Santa Monica Bay

4 You can have delphiniums like these on such a windy site only if you stake early and well. The Brewers find that staking is but small payment for what they get in striking delphinium silhouettes against the sea and sky

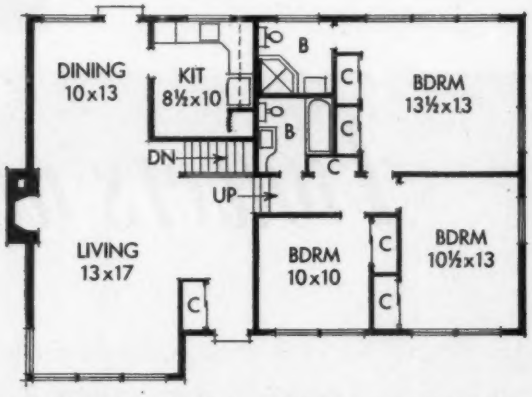
Here's living on three levels...

and it costs less!

Fireplace-wall introduces new texture to room—mahogany-stained plywood paneling. Narrow mantel that outlines fireplace opening is flagstone. Center ridge beam (4x12) gives sense of separation between living and dining sides of room. Beam offers place to fasten track for attractive sliding divider-wall

By John Normile, A.I.A.

THE THREE LEVELS meet off a central entrance. The bedroom wing is slightly higher than the living area to give the lower level more above-the-ground room. And the three walls with windows bring lots of light into these "basement" rooms



Entrance leads to stairs to family room and garage on lower level, or up to bedrooms. This living and sleeping level is 1,288 square feet. Over-all dimensions are 44x32

Front entrance brings guests and family into pivotal point of house—down three feet from bedroom level, a floor above exposed basement level. Undisturbed living area is at right. Entrance-closet wall keeps entrance set off. Stairs to lower level are made an attractive and important part of the plan

Family room and bath on lower level add 336 square feet of space. Builder: Arters Brothers, Media, Pennsylvania. Architect: George Hay. Owners: The Leonard LaVassars

More photographs on page 116

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

You can buy plans for Better Homes & Gardens Five Star® homes

See how, page 117

Perfect for rolling site, Five Star 2601 has family room and garage on exposed "basement" level. Flat lot would require slight grading. House of simple lines allows more daring use of color—soft-blue siding and dark-blue trim set off red brick. Window line is continuous by use of painted panels and white trim

Photographs: Hubbard

Exterior plywood and battens every 16 inches give house strong vertical lines. They, in turn, are relieved by horizontal grouping of dark panels and windows, siding at gable ends. Door from kitchen opens to off-street yard on the highest level of lot. Paved terrace could eventually be located in this area

Three well-tested, wholly delightful, cluster-flowered roses are Spartan, sunshiny Golden Fleece, clear White Bouquet

Fire Dance Petunia, top winner of All-America Seed Selections, has a vivid, fluted flower on a sturdy, vigorous plant. Not so red but quite as gay as the widely popular Comanche

Suter, Hedrich-Blessing

Hottest news in flowers for 1956!

By Fleeta Brownell Woodroffe

EVER SINCE the great naming done by Adam in the Garden of Eden, all interested in plants have turned to each other as each spring came on. In many tongues they've asked, "What's new? What do you have that's better? What can I grow that will produce more for less work?"

Nowadays, advances are all plotted out by scientists, not left to chance finding.

Here are some of the earliest finds in the news for '56. We'll be showing others later that you'll agree are just as exciting.

Hybrid tea roses, good new ones in all colors, are so plentiful there are not enough awards to go around. Among best: Lovesong—a daintier Peace, is all Jersey cream flushed gold and salmon; Wedding Ring is purest gold; Roundelay (left) is a fruitily fragrant, dark red

Photographs: Lisanti, Alderman

Black raspberry tones of the new rose named for Amy Vanderbilt start decorators and flower arrangers to planning how to use it at very first sight. One of the new floribundas, it averages five buds to a head, makes an arresting color spot in the garden. Shown here with Yellow Pigmy Circus, a floribunda, is the only rose to win in the All-America Rose Selections for this year. Circus Rose is as gay, as unexpected in its color changes, as packed with good humor and generous bloom as a day under The Big Top is packed with thrills. Flowers on one branch may be golden yellow while those on the next stem are redder than a big clown's nose. Plants are compact, branchy

de Gennaro

Hopkins

Royal Stewart is the name of this new gladiolus, the reddest red you can imagine and one of two varieties to receive the first awards of the recently organized All-America Gladiolus Selections. Stalks are exceptionally tall and stout, flowers are huge, open evenly

Appleblossom, the other top award winner, is a pure pink with a lighter throat and no hint of salmon. Broad, rolled petals and ability to withstand wind, rain, sun, and shipping helped Appleblossom win its top rating in a hotly contested field. It's a honey

Antique copper sweeps across drawers and generously decks automatic dishwasher. Cabinets are made of steel, but doors and end panels are natural birch.

Range is flanked by roomy counters — perfect for dishing up food. The ventilator in the copper-enameled hood over range quickly pulls out cooking odors, smoke

Here's a kitchen keyed for warmth and durability

By Anne Anderson

A trio of copper, natural birch, steel is teamed up to create this charming effect. Kitchen's a top performer, works well with adjoining laundry-sewing room

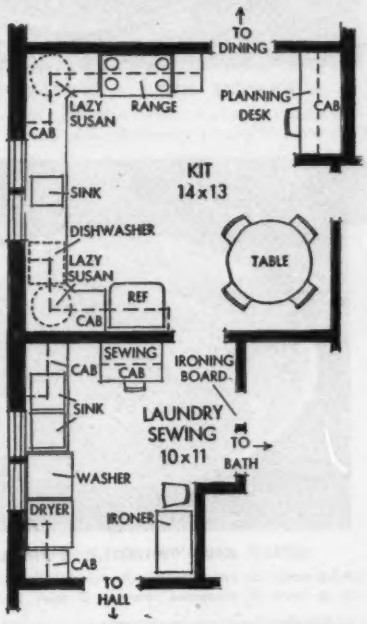
You're looking at an average-size kitchen—not mammoth, not a "niche." The homeowners wanted more than a claustrophobic area for Mother to carry out her homemaking jobs. Careful planning resulted in a pleasant, worksaving kitchen.

A glance at the floor plan will show you that the roomy eating area, efficient planning desk, and sewing cabinet in the laundry room weren't afterthoughts. They were "musts" from the start, to take care of necessary family activities.

Breakfast and lunch are eaten in the kitchen, making these meals almost "stepless" for Mom. At dinnertime, and for company meals, the family moves out to the dining room.

Kitchen "office" is a dandy—large enough to keep complete household records, recipes. The kids will appreciate it for their homework, too. Check this kitchen for ideas.

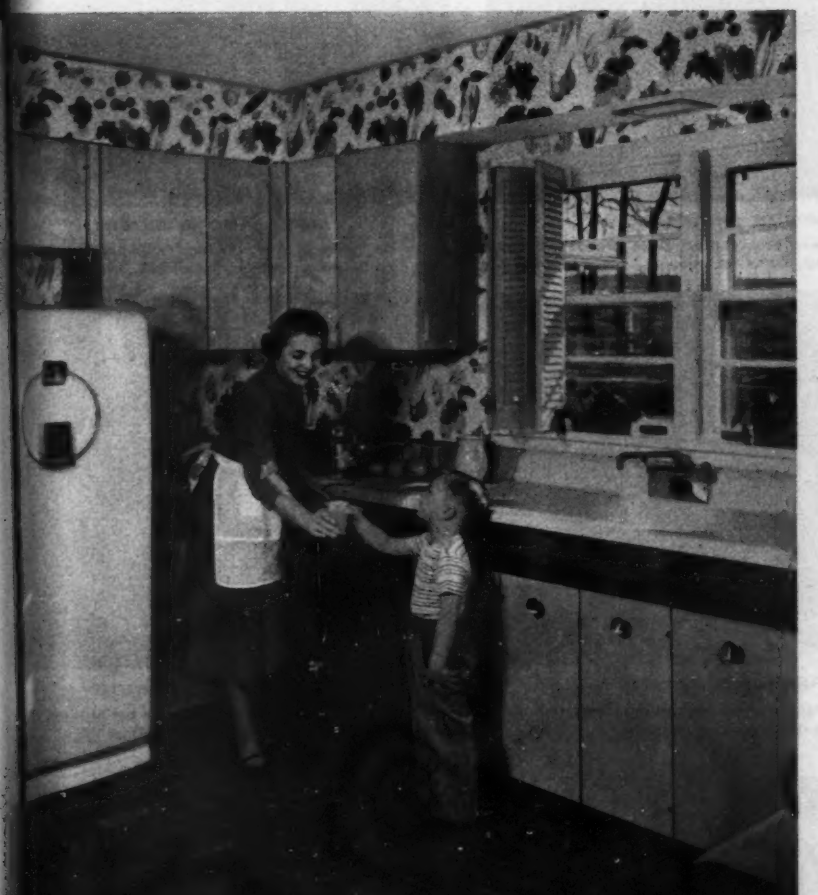
Kitchen and laundry-sewing room are side by side, form a beautiful partnership



See how arrangement of range, sink, and refrigerator in U-kitchen makes stepsaving triangle. Laundry room is a good worker, too. Architect: W. Erb Hanson, A.I.A. Designer: Beatrice West

A comfortable and pleasant eating place in corner of kitchen takes the run out of serving breakfast and lunch to a hungry family. White wrought-iron table, chairs are pleasing in scale for this medium-size kitchen, don't devour precious floor space. Large built-in planning desk at left is birch to match cabinets. The handsome, white louvered door hides this home's heating compartment

Photographs: Hedrich-Blessing



Trim and ready for action. Laundry-sewing room boasts a line-up of automatic washer and dryer, and its own laundry sink. Right across is an ironer that speeds Mom through this task. White steel cabinets are used. Billy finds pull-out board of sewing cabinet a perfect place for his art work while he keeps Mother company

Inviting as a sunny morning—this kitchen seems that way all day long, rain or shine. Gold-painted shutters on window and over-all decor give this feeling. Mom has no worries if Billy spills orange juice—floor is easy-to-clean plastic tile. Copper dishwasher is topped with a maple cutting counter. Refrigerator sports ice-water tap in the door

More on page 94

21 new ideas for 21 Campbell's Soups

—new ways, new times, new places!

Ever butter up your family with hot buttered soup? Ever brighten up your husband's spirits with soup on the rocks? Ever wake yourself up with fragrant, flavorful soup for breakfast?

No matter how, when or where you enjoy these soups, they're ever so good for you in so many ways. Their aroma and steaming warmth whet the appetite. A variety of Campbell's Soups supplies basic nutritional needs—proteins, vitamins, minerals—and liquids, too, to aid your digestion.

As you look over these 21 new ideas—choose one to try tonight.

SOUP FOR SUNDAY BRUNCH

Campbell's Chicken Gumbo—delicious chicken and vegetable soup packed with nourishment. Extra-good with waffles.

SOUP NOGS

Take one can of Cream of Celery Soup. Whip it up with one can of milk and two eggs. Chill and serve—an extra-nourishing notion!

SOUP AND THIMBLE DUMPLINGS

Add herbs or spice to biscuit mix. Make *tiny* dumplings. Drop from a teaspoon, simmer 5 min. in Scotch Broth.

SOUP ON THE BUFFET TABLE

A decorative tureen filled to the brim with Beef Soup. A hearty, stick-to-the-ribs soup for Sunday night or any night.

SOUP FOR A BIRTHDAY

Make it a party soup—a bowl of Campbell's Beef Noodle with candles on Melba toast. Good for children—and they'll love it.

SOUP AND A SWEET

To help balance a rich dessert—Vegetarian Vegetable Soup with its nourishing green and yellow vegetables.

SOUP ON THE ROCKS

Cool, clear, refreshing! Campbell's Bouillon poured from the can into glasses filled with ice cubes. Have it often!

SOUP-PLATE LUNCH

Surround a bowl of Vegetable Beef Soup with crackers, cheese . . . whatever you like. So quick, so easy, so good for you!

SOUP AND SNIPPETS

Cream of Asparagus—with snippets cut out of sliced pimiento cheese—and slipped gently onto the surface.

Once a day . . . every day . . .

SOUP FOR A LATE SUPPER

Onion Soup—rich and savory—with sweet onions and Cheddar cheese! Have it with a green salad and French bread!

HOT BUTTERED SOUP

Glorious Tomato Soup in big, comfortable mugs — topped with a generous piece of butter. Hot, hearty and heavenly!

SOUP IN THE LUNCH BOX

Green Pea Soup—creamy-smooth companion to sandwiches. Take it hot in a vacuum bottle — to school, work, or a picnic!

SOUP ON THE SNACK BAR

Lunch, supper, any time—set out Campbell's Clam Chowder on the kitchen lunch bar — and watch the family line up!

SOUP THROUGH THE MEAL

Enjoy a steaming cup of Consommé as any meal's hot drink! Clear and tangy beef broth — makes everything taste better!

SOUP AND FRUIT

Light and bright for lunch—a bowl of Chicken Noodle Soup, a bunch of grapes, and maybe crackers 'n cheese.

PASS THE SOUP TRAY

In the living room—pass 'round mugs of Cream of Mushroom and salty nibbles. Before dinner, or as an evening snack.

SOUP AND POPCORN

Fun for children and grownups, too! Big bowls of Campbell's Cream of Chicken Soup garnished with buttered popcorn.

SOUP FOR BREAKFAST

Start the day with extra punch—serve cheering bowls of Campbell's Vegetable Soup 'round your breakfast table!

SOUP AND CHEESE

Bean with Bacon Soup. And on the side—your favorite cheese. High-protein combination for high-powered energy.

SOUP FOR RELAXATION AND SLEEP

Soothing as a bedtime fairy tale—a mug of golden-good Chicken with Rice Soup. Sweet dreams for Junior, Dad or Granddad!

SOUP CAN MAKE THE MEAL

Have a vegetable and meat soup like Campbell's Pepper Pot. Make it with milk for an extra-good 'n nourishing treat!

Mm! Mm! Good!

Campbell's Soup

SOUPS SUPPLY BASIC NUTRITIONAL NEEDS

PROTEINS—for upkeep and growth • CARBOHYDRATES—for energy

VITAMINS and MINERALS—for vitality • LIQUIDS—for digestion

Table mirrors are back again!

By Fae Huttenlocher

To give this arrangement of fruit its interesting high and low line, use a can to hold grapes and leaves high. Conceal with heavier fruits at base.

Ivy Hall pattern china, Patio pattern glass, Bright Future silverplate are complemented by the fruit.

FOR YOUR table decoration, the new mirror plateaus can be beautiful as well as useful. They serve as a table protection and as a substitute for flower or fruit bowls. Also, they can be left on the table for decor between meals. The new mirror plateaus are modern in form and offer you diversity in table design and theme for all occasions

Photographs: Hopkins

Two small, square mirror plateaus reflecting glass birds turn a pot of ivy and a few flowers into an eye-arresting table decoration. The simplicity of Carousel pattern earthenware, Standish pattern tumbler, and Today pattern stainless steel offer contrast to decorative centerpiece

A few tuberous begonia blossoms look special on this free-form mirror plateau. Two 1-inch needlepoint holders placed in water (in small can and bottle lids) will hold blossoms close to their mirrored reflection. Harmonizing china is Athenia pattern with Silver Rhythm pattern flatware

FRANCO-AMERICAN IS A TRADEMARK OWNED BY THE MAKERS OF CAMPBELL'S SOUPS

"What–only one potful for the four of us?"

DO YOU THINK our young hopefuls are greedy? Not a bit of it. They simply know *superior eating* when they see it. And that is how they rate FRANCO-AMERICAN Spaghetti!

It's such *fun* to eat. Twirling a neatly packed forkful from plate to mouth is a challenge kids go for. (Grownups secretly take pride in it, too.)

And that rich tomato sauce is so good, you can't blame folks for wanting more.

You ought to see the ingredients that go into our Spaghetti. Tomatoes that have grown red and juicy on the vine. Shelf-cured Cheddar cheese. Seasonings that you yourself might choose.

Naturally, all that goodness adds up to *nutritious* eating. There's plenty of *energy* in Franco-American Spaghetti. And body-building protein, too.

Thinking of ordering several cans right this minute? Then you'll be glad to know that Franco-American Spaghetti is a wonderfully economical food. It actually costs *less than eight cents a serving!*

Take your choice of two sizes:
Regular Size can or this popular Large Size.→

Spaghetti

by *Franco-American*

Connoisseurs' choice

A treasure from the world's great tea gardens

THIS famed Sexton Luxury Tea is a very choicest blend of flowery Darjeeling, India and Ceylon.

Superb in bouquet! Delicate in flavor! A tea you proudly offer to your guests in your home! A tea served at world-renowned hotels and restaurants!

Each carton of this unusual tea is a simulated old "Treasure Chest" from Sexton, tea merchants for over 70 years. Packed in non-tangling tea bags for your convenience. Sold by better independent grocers.

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

Sexton
Quality Foods
John Sexton & Co., Chicago

MEXENE
CHILI POWDER SEASONING

"You will find in the spice of MEXENE
A rare seasoning flavor supreme.
For chili or beans,
Spaghetti or greens,
Use MEXENE to improve your cuisine."
Phyllis Mexene

Blended by the packers of AUSTEX

FREE COLOR CATALOG

Hardy AZALEAS

Bring the charm of the Deep South to the northern garden. Hardy; easy to grow. Brilliant colors. Also Fruit Trees, Roses, Evergreens. Write today for FREE Color Catalog.

EMLONG'S, Box 69, Stevensville, Michigan

peppermint stick ZINNIAS

Speckled and striped; a different type. Numerous combined colors. Thick, medium flower heads. Send for big packet CATALOG FREE 10¢

R. H. SHUMWAY Seedsman, Dept. 318, Rockford, ILL.

Holiday hospitality recipes

Begins on page 43

Sizzling Steak Canapes

Here's simplified entertaining—and no snack could taste better!—

We used strip sirloin steak—or you may know it as New York or Kansas City cut. (Watch for packaged frozen strip steak at the frozen-foods counter.) Or you may use whole beef tenderloin, of course.

Have steak cut 1½ to 2 inches thick. Place in broiler so top of steak is 2 to 4 inches from heat (2 inches for rare, 4 for well done).

Use broiling timetable below, according to thickness of your steak and doneness you like. Broil one side; season; turn with tongs and broil other side. Season.

Total broiling time (approximate)

	1½-inch steak	2-inch steak
Rare	18 min.	32 min.
Medium rare	20 min.	36 min.
Well done	25 min.	40 min.

Slice steak thin and serve hot on thin slices of salty rye bread (buttered or not).

Company Rabbit

No sauce to stir up, no seasoning—canned soup "makes" this cheese rabbit—

- 1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 2 cups (½ pound) grated sharp American cheese
- ¼ cup sliced ripe olives
- ¼ cup diced green pepper

Combine soup and cheese in double boiler or chafing dish. Heat over simmering water till cheese melts, stirring occasionally. Add olives and green pepper. Serve over hot canned chow-mein noodles, toast, or slices of rye bread. Makes 4 to 5 servings.

Chicken Italian

Expertly seasoned with tomato paste, garlic, and oregano—

- 1 clove garlic, halved
- ¼ cup salad oil
- 1 2½- to 3-pound ready-to-cook frying chicken, disjointed
- 1½ teaspoons salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- ½ teaspoon oregano
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 4-ounce can (1 cup) mushrooms
- ½ cup sliced celery
- 1 6-ounce can (⅔ cup) tomato paste

Brown halved garlic clove in hot oil; remove garlic. Season chicken with salt, pepper, oregano, and minced garlic. Fry chicken in hot oil 10 to 12 minutes, or until golden brown, turning once. Drain mushrooms, reserving liquid. Combine mushroom liquid plus water to make ¾ cup; add celery and tomato paste; pour over chicken. Cover; simmer 30 minutes; add mushrooms; simmer 15 minutes longer or till chicken is tender. Makes 4 servings.

Rotisserie Supper

You cook (easy does it). Guests watch. Appetites soar!—

Buy unsliced big Bologna (the amount depends on crowd and size of rotisserie). Remove skin if you like and score the surface. Center Bologna lengthwise on spit; adjust in rotisserie. Broil meat till heated through and nicely browned—about 1½ hours for 5 or 6 pounds. Last 20 minutes, brown sweet-potato halves and pineapple slices on buttered grill-top tray, turning occasionally. Garnish hot buttered green beans with pimiento and tiny onion rings; keep hot in serving dish on bake-tray (this one is part of rotisserie shown on page 47 and may be removed and used with its own heat control).

Baked-ham timetable

Set oven at 325°. Times are for chilled whole hams (bone in) taken right from refrigerator—

Uncooked (cook-before-eating type)	Time (per lb.)	Time* (total)
12-14-lb. ham 12-lb., for example	16-18 min.	3¾ hrs.

**Cooking times are approximate only. If you use a meat thermometer, cook ham to an internal temperature of 160°.*

Cooked (ready-to-eat type)	Time (per lb.)	Time† (total)
12-14-lb. ham 12-lb., for example	12-15 min.	3 hrs.

†Cooking times are approximate only. If you use a meat thermometer, heat to 130°.

Glaze for Baked Ham

The last 30 minutes of baking, pour fat drippings from pan. Combine 1 cup brown sugar, ½ cup honey, and ¼ cup ham fat; spread over ham. Continue baking, basting occasionally, about 30 minutes, or till ham is well glazed. Garnish with peach slices and maraschino cherries, if desired.

Angel Pineapple Torte

The kind of glamorous dessert guests rave about. And no fuss for you—get it ready to "frost" day before party—

- 12 egg whites (1½ cups)
- 2 teaspoons vanilla
- 1½ teaspoons vinegar
- 3 cups sugar
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 cup well-drained canned crushed pineapple
- ½ cup maraschino cherries, chopped and well drained

• • •

- 2 cups heavy cream

To egg whites, add vanilla and vinegar. Beat until mixture forms soft peaks. Gradually add sugar, beating till very stiff and all sugar is dissolved. Spread in 3 paper-lined 9x1½-inch round cake pans. Bake in slow oven (300°) 1¼ to 1½ hours, or till dry on top and lightly browned. Cool thoroughly in pans. Turn out; remove paper. Whip 1 cup heavy cream till stiff; add pineapple and cherries. Spread between layers. Chill in refrigerator 12 hours or overnight. Before serving, whip 2 cups heavy cream and frost top and sides of torte. Trim with California walnut halves and cherry flowers (make 5 lengthwise cuts in cherry, not quite through; spread flat for petals). Makes 12 to 16 servings.

Green Salad

- 3 or 4 heads Bibb lettuce
- 2 tomatoes, cut in wedges
- 1 avocado, cut in wedges
- 1 carrot, cut lengthwise in thin slices
- ¼ cup Garlic Dressing

Break lettuce into bowl. Add other vegetables. Add dressing and toss lightly. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Garlic Dressing

- 1 teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon white pepper
- ½ teaspoon celery salt
- ¼ teaspoon cayenne
- ¼ teaspoon dry mustard
- 2 tablespoons salad vinegar
- 2 tablespoons tomato juice
- Dash Tabasco sauce
- 1 cup salad oil
- 1 clove garlic, minced

Combine ingredients in jar; cover and shake vigorously. Makes 1¼ cups.

Scalloped Potatoes

Creamy and wonderfully seasoned. Success secret is the mushroom soup—

- 8 medium potatoes pared and sliced (2 quarts)
- ¼ cup chopped green pepper
- ¼ cup minced onion
- 1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 cup milk
- 2 teaspoons salt
- Dash pepper

Alternate layers of potatoes, green pepper, and onion in greased 2-quart baking dish. Combine remaining ingredients; pour over potatoes. Cover and bake in moderate oven (350°) 1½ hours or till potatoes are done. Makes 8 servings.

Casserole of Shrimp in Garlic Butter

A delicious version of shrimp de Jonghe. Lusty flavor—

- 4 pounds fresh or frozen shrimp

• • •

- 1 cup butter or margarine, melted
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- ⅓ cup chopped parsley
- ½ teaspoon paprika
- Dash cayenne
- ½ cup cooking sherry
- 2 cups soft bread crumbs

Rinse the shrimp; drop unshelled shrimp into boiling salted water (4 tablespoons salt to 9 cups water). Cover; heat to boiling, then lower heat and simmer gently till shells turn pink, about 5 minutes. Drain. Cool in cold water. Peel off shells and remove vein that runs down back. To melted butter, add garlic, parsley, paprika, cayenne, and cooking sherry; mix. Add bread crumbs; toss. Place shrimp in greased individual casseroles or 11x7x1½-inch baking dish. Spoon butter mixture over. Bake in slow oven (325°) 20 to 25 minutes, or till crumbs brown. Sprinkle with additional chopped parsley before serving. Makes 6 servings.

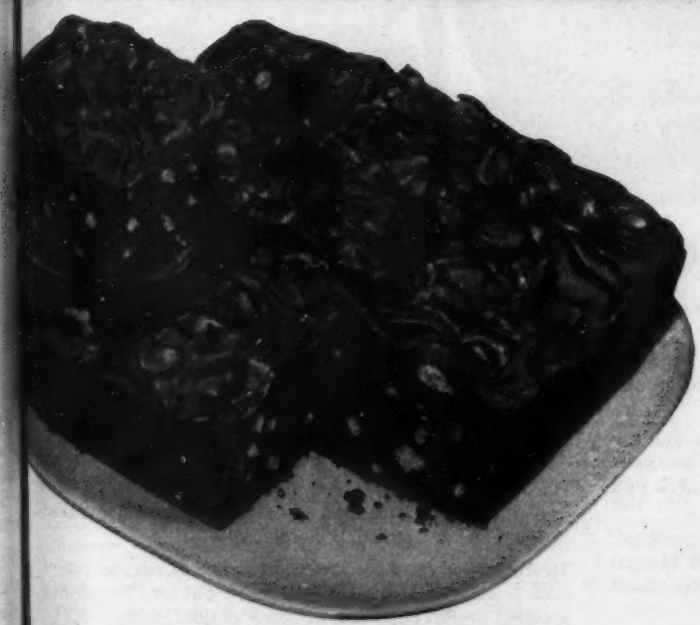
[Turn to page 136

"I could have kissed that bag of Pillsbury's BEST when my first try came out pretty as anything"

In the very first Pillsbury $100,000 Grand National Recipe and Baking Contest, Mrs. Albert G. Plagens entered her Mission Sunday Fudge Cake recipe, one baked often for "Mission Sunday" church suppers in Minnesota.

As Mrs. Plagens, mother of a missionary minister son, tells it, "I entered the Pillsbury contest almost in self defense. Mother and my cousins kept begging me to type up their recipes for them . . . I helped them out, and after a while, I thought I might as well enter my own recipe. It was mailed just the day before the contest closed." Next thing she knew, Mrs. Plagens was making her cake at the Grand National at the Waldorf-Astoria.

"A lot of credit should go to that bag of Pillsbury's Best Flour," says Mrs. Plagens, the wife of an architect. "Ever since I can remember, I've used Pillsbury's Best for all my baking . . . and I think it was this fact . . . working with a flour I knew so well and have always had such wonderful results with . . . that calmed me down and helped me to bake a prize-winning cake in spite of all the excitement around us during the Bake-off."



What flour do you use? Pillsbury's Best is home-tested every year in 19,000,000 kitchens just like yours . . . and more women have won more baking prizes with it than with any other flour.

Mission Sunday Fudge Cake

Senior Winner in Pillsbury's 1st Grand National

by Mrs. Albert G. Plagens, St. Paul, Minnesota—Adapted by Ann Pillsbury

BAKE at 325° F. for 45 to 55 minutes. MAKES 8 or 9-inch square cake.*

Sift together 1 cup sifted **Pillsbury's Best Enriched Flour****
½ teaspoon **soda**
¼ teaspoon **salt**

Cream..... ½ cup **butter** or margarine (half other shortening may be used); gradually add 1 cup firmly packed **brown sugar**, creaming well.

Blend in... 3 **eggs**, one at a time, beating well after each.

Add..... 1½ squares (1½ oz.) melted unsweetened **chocolate**

Combine... ½ cup **buttermilk** or sour milk and 1 teaspoon **vanilla**. Add alternately with the dry ingredients to creamed mixture, beginning and ending with dry ingredients. Blend thoroughly after each addition. (With electric mixer use a low speed.)

Fold in ¼ cup finely chopped **nuts**. Then fold in ½ cup shredded **coconut**, if desired.

Turn... into 8x8x2 or 9x9x2-inch pan, well greased and lightly floured on the bottom only.

Bake... in slow oven (325° F.) 45 to 55 minutes. Cool and frost.

CHOCOLATE MALLOW FROSTING

Melt 1 square (1 oz.) unsweetened chocolate and 2 tablespoons butter over hot water. Measure 1½ cups sifted confectioners' sugar into bowl; add the chocolate mixture. Blend in 1 teaspoon vanilla and 2 to 3 tablespoons cream until frosting is of proper spreading consistency. Add 6 marshmallows, cut into eighths.

*If desired, recipe may be doubled and baked in a 15x10x2-inch pan for 1 hour.
**If you use Pillsbury's Best Enriched Self-Rising Flour (sold in parts of the south), omit salt; reduce soda to ¼ teaspoon.

Pillsbury's BEST

The PRIZE-WINNING Flour

Quick and Wonderful made with the NEW-DAY CORN MEAL with

Fresh Corn Flavor

Quaker CORN MEAL

Hominy Grits and Quick Grits, too.

Aunt Jemima CORN MEAL

Hominy Grits, too.

Look for either of these famous faces and you get the Fresh Corn Flavor of choice corn, new milling methods, new packaging.

One easy Corn Meal recipe gives

Four Corn Muffin Treats!

Men folks love hot corn meal muffins! And here's a quick new way to stir up a wonderful variety from one easy master recipe.

Just get Quaker or Aunt Jemima Corn Meal and follow the simple suggestions below. You'll find these *new-day* corn meals mix faster, cook faster, and give you that famous Fresh Corn Flavor!

Prepare corn bread batter as directed on package. Bake in 12 greased medium-sized muffin cups or 14 corn stick molds at 425°F. about 20 minutes for muffins, about 15 minutes for corn sticks. For variety try:

Cheese Corn Meal Muffins (or Sticks): Add ½ cup grated sharp cheese to batter. Pour into greased muffin cups or corn stick molds; sprinkle with ½ cup more cheese. Bake.

Orange Corn Meal Muffins (or Sticks): Add grated rind of 1 orange to batter. Pour into greased muffin cups or corn stick molds; bake. Spread immediately with frosting made by combining ½ cup confectioners' sugar, 1 teaspoon butter and 1 tablespoon orange juice.

Bacon Corn Meal Muffins (or Sticks): Cook 7 strips bacon; crumble and add to batter. Pour into greased muffin cups or corn stick molds. Bake.

Herb Muffins (or Sticks): Add 1 teaspoon caraway seed and 1 teaspoon minced onion to batter. Pour into greased muffin cups or corn stick molds. Bake.

P. S. For a nice change from potatoes, try Quaker or Aunt Jemima Grits—snow-white corn hearts that cook quickly to tempting flavor.

Make jams and jellies now

Use canned, dried, citrus, and home- or commercially-frozen fruits to make these extra-luscious fruit spreads

Strawberry-Pineapple Jam

Luscious frozen strawberries with surprise bits of pineapple—

- 1 10-ounce package (1 cup) frozen sliced strawberries, thawed (your own or commercially packed)
- 1 No. 2 can (2½ cups) crushed pineapple
- ⅛ cup water
- 1 2½-ounce box powdered fruit pectin
- 3¼ cups sugar

In large saucepan, combine strawberries, pineapple, water, and pectin. Place over high heat and stir until mixture comes to a full, rolling boil. Immediately stir in sugar. Heat to a full, rolling boil and boil hard *1 minute*, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Stir and skim by turns for 5 minutes. (Use metal spoon to remove foam.) Ladle into sterilized glasses. Cover the jam at once with ⅛ inch of hot paraffin. Makes about five 8-ounce glasses.

Dried Apricot-Pineapple Jam

A sunny double-fruit treat for breakfast toast—

- 2 cups dried apricots
- 3 cups water
- 1 No. 2 can (2½ cups) crushed pineapple
- ½ lemon, sliced thin
- 4 cups sugar

Rinse apricots. Simmer covered in the water until tender. Mash apricots; add remaining ingredients. Simmer uncovered, stirring frequently, until thick, about 12 to 15 minutes. Pour into sterilized glasses; seal at once with ⅛ inch hot paraffin. Makes ten 6-ounce glasses.

Grape Jelly

The easiest grape jelly you ever made—

- 3½ cups sugar
- 2 cups bottled grape juice
- ½ bottle liquid fruit pectin

In large saucepan, combine sugar and grape juice. Heat to boiling over high heat, stirring constantly. Immediately stir in fruit pectin. Heat to a full, rolling boil, and boil hard *1 minute*, stirring constantly. Remove from heat; skim off foam; pour quickly into sterilized glasses. Cover at once with ⅛ inch hot paraffin. Makes about five 8-ounce glasses.

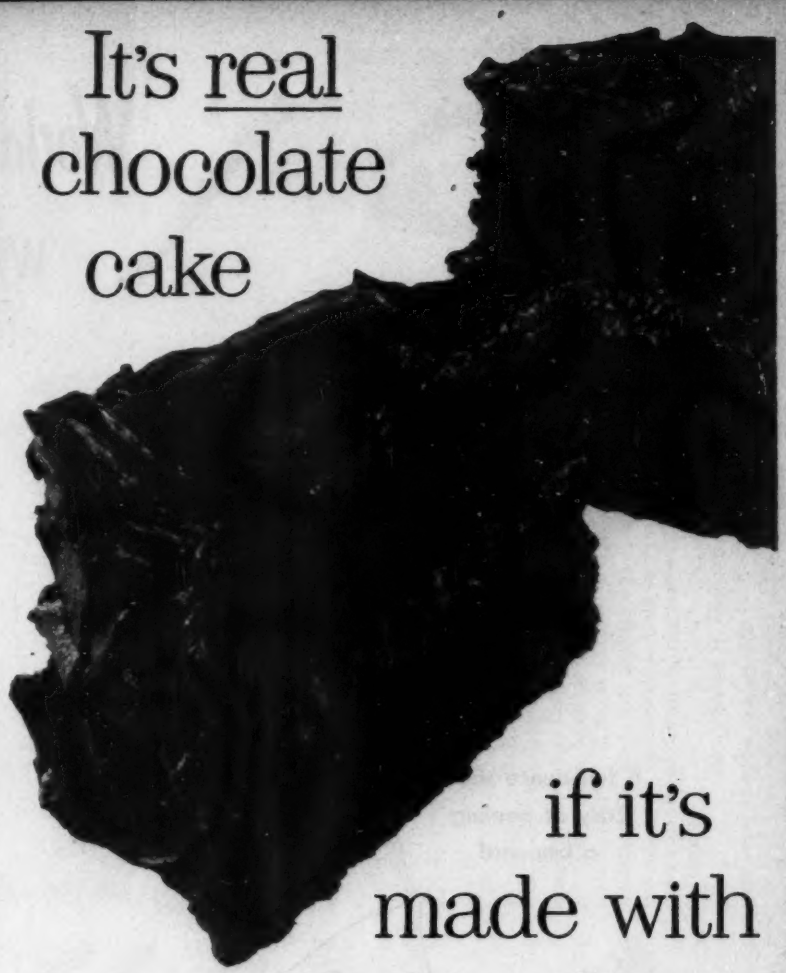
Citrus Marmalade

Just one each of three fruits, and you get eight glasses of delicious spread—

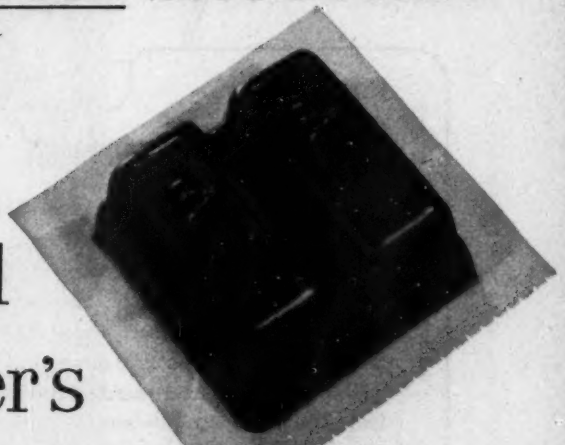
- 1 orange
- 1 lemon
- 1 grapefruit
- Sugar

Wash unpeeled fruit; cut in fine pieces, removing seeds. Measure, and add 3 cups water to each cup fruit. Boil 5 minutes. Let stand overnight. Boil until peel is tender. Let stand until cold; measure, and add as much sugar as there is fruit and juice. Heat rapidly to boiling; continue boiling hard till mixture reaches jellying point, about 1 hour. (Stir occasionally to prevent mixture from sticking to pan.) Jelly test: Dip metal spoon into mixture. When two thick drops run together off side of spoon, point has been reached. Pour into sterilized glasses. Cover with ⅛ inch hot paraffin. Makes about eight 8-ounce glasses.

It's real chocolate cake

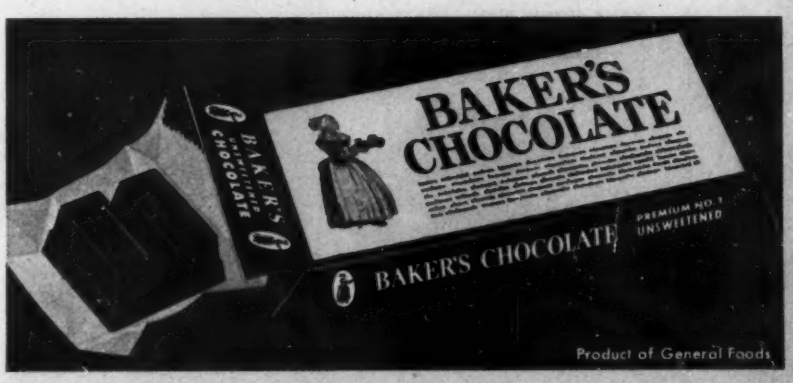


if it's made with real chocolate



and Baker's makes it best!

Follow easy recipes on package for cake and luscious frosting . . . *all pure chocolate through and through!*



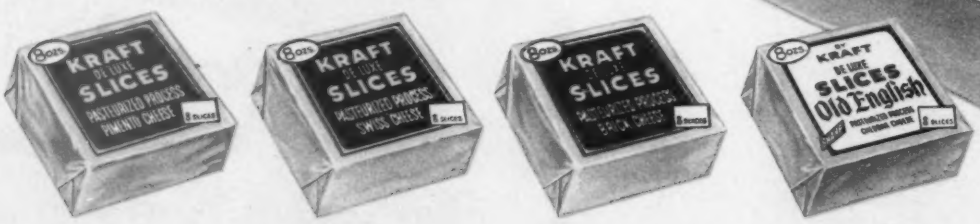
World's best cheese sandwich... with Kraft DE LUXE Slices

8 full-ounce slices.
Easy as peeling
a banana!

It's called "America's tastiest sandwich"

Toast bread slices (crusts trimmed) on one side. Spread the untoasted side with Kraft Mayonnaise. Top with a slice of peeled tomato and a golden Kraft De Luxe Slice of mellow pasteurized process American cheese. These are the slices that always melt perfectly. And they *taste extra good*. That's because these slices are never cut from a loaf. Instead, each perfect slice is formed as the fine process cheese comes from the pasteurizers—*sealing in* the flavor. Top the cheese slice with two crisscrossed strips of partially broiled bacon and place under low broiler heat until the bacon is crisp and the cheese melted. Serve hot.

TAKE YOUR PICK: ***KRAFT AMERICAN • PIMENTO • SWISS • BRICK***
OLD ENGLISH BRAND • PASTEURIZED PROCESS CHEESES



Better Homes & Gardens Prize Tested Recipes

Hearty stews

File under Meats

Short-rib Stew with Parsley Dumplings

Cut 2 pounds short ribs in serving pieces. Combine ¼ cup enriched flour, 1 tablespoon salt, and ¼ teaspoon pepper; dredge ribs in mixture. Brown in 2 tablespoons hot fat. Combine two 1-pound cans (4 cups) tomatoes, 2 cloves garlic, minced, and 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce; pour over ribs. Cover; simmer 1½ hours. Add 4 to 5 carrots, sliced, 2 medium onions, sliced, and 1 medium potato, diced. Simmer 45 minutes longer, or till meat and vegetables are tender. Skim off fat. Season stew to taste. Drop Parsley Dumpling mixture from tablespoon atop bubbling stew. Cover tightly; bring to boiling. Reduce heat (don't lift cover) and simmer 15 minutes longer. Makes 4 to 5 servings. **Parsley Dumplings:** Sift together 1 cup sifted enriched flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, and ½ teaspoon salt. Add ¼ cup chopped parsley. Combine ½ cup milk and 2 tablespoons salad oil or melted shortening; add to dry ingredients, stirring just till flour is dampened.

Mrs. Delbert McPherson, Orlando, Florida

Cut along dotted lines

Photographs: Nelson, Photography, Inc.

Raisin specials

Golden Crumble Tarts

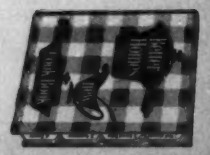
Try this snappy cheese topper on one-crust apple pie, too!—

Simmer 2 cups seedless raisins in 1½ cups water about 5 minutes. Combine ½ cup brown sugar, 2 tablespoons cornstarch, 1 teaspoon grated lemon peel, and ¼ teaspoon salt; stir into raisin mixture. Cook, stirring constantly, until mixture thickens. Add 2 tablespoons lemon juice. Cool slightly. Pour into four 4-inch unbaked pastry tart shells. Sprinkle Crumble Topping over filling. Bake in hot oven (400°) 25 to 30 minutes, or till top is lightly browned. **Crumble Topping:** Sift together ½ cup sifted enriched flour, ¼ cup sugar, and ¼ teaspoon salt; stir in ½ cup grated sharp process American cheese. Cut in ¼ cup butter or margarine till mixture is crumbly.

Mrs. Hildreth H. Hatheway, Santa Barbara, California

Add these pages to your COOK BOOK

File under Desserts



Quick Raisin-Rice Pudding

- ¾ cup packaged precooked rice
- ½ cup seedless raisins, light or dark
- ¼ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Dash cinnamon
- Dash nutmeg
- 2 cups milk
- 2 slightly beaten eggs

In saucepan, combine rice, raisins, sugar, salt, and spices. Add milk. Cook, stirring constantly, until mixture comes to a boil. Remove from heat. Stir small amount of mixture into eggs; return to remaining mixture. Cover tightly; let stand 45 minutes, or until rice is tender and custard is set. Chill, if desired. Makes 6 servings.

Mrs. Paul Bjorklund, Hicksville, New York

Raisin Betty

In saucepan, combine 1 cup seedless raisins, 1 tablespoon quick-cooking tapioca, and ⅔ cup water. Simmer, stirring occasionally, 5 to 8 minutes or until mixture thickens and raisins are plump. Add 2 cups chopped pared tart apples, ⅓ cup sugar, ¼ teaspoon each cinnamon and nutmeg, and 2 tablespoons lemon juice. Pour into greased 10x6x1½-inch baking dish. Mix together ¾ cup sifted enriched flour, ½ cup brown sugar, and ¼ teaspoon salt; cut in ⅓ cup butter or margarine till mixture is crumbly. Sprinkle over raisin mixture. Bake in moderate oven (350°) about 35 minutes or until apples are tender. Serve warm topped with whipped cream and maraschino cherry. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Mrs. Doris Ann Krupinski, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Spicy Raisin Ice Cream

- 1 cup seedless raisins
- ⅓ cup sugar
- 1 tablespoon cornstarch
- ½ teaspoon cinnamon
- ¼ teaspoon cloves
- ¼ teaspoon nutmeg
- Dash salt
- 1 cup milk
- 2 beaten eggs
- ½ teaspoon vanilla

• • •

- 1 6-ounce can (⅔ cup) evaporated milk, chilled and whipped
- ¼ cup chopped California walnuts

Mix together raisins, sugar, cornstarch, spices, and salt. Stir in milk. Cook, stirring constantly, till mixture thickens. Gradually add to eggs, beating well. Add vanilla. Pour into refrigerator tray. Freeze till firm; break in chunks and beat with an electric beater till smooth.* Fold in whipped milk and nuts. Return to tray; freeze firm. Top with walnut half when serving. Makes 6 servings.

*Or freeze till partially frozen; beat smooth with rotary beater.

Theresa M. Lessmeister, Peru, Illinois

Cut along dotted lines

Add these pages to your Better & Homes Gardens Cook Book

Beef Oven Stew

Winter-day special. Bake gingerbread at same time—

Combine 2 tablespoons enriched flour, 1½ teaspoons salt, and dash pepper; dredge 1½ pounds 1½-inch cubes beef chuck in mixture. Brown in 2 tablespoons hot fat (reserve drippings). In 2-quart casserole place meat, 5 to 6 carrots, sliced, and 10 peeled small white onions. Combine meat drippings with one 6-ounce can (⅔ cup) tomato paste, 1 clove garlic, miniced, 1 bay leaf, dash thyme, 1 teaspoon monosodium glutamate, 1½ cups water, and 1 tablespoon vinegar; bring to boiling. Pour over meat. Cover; bake in moderate oven (350°) 45 minutes. Add one 10-ounce package frozen peas; cover and bake 45 minutes longer or until meat and vegetables are tender. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Mrs. Claude F. Heath, Sandston, Virginia

Speedy Vegetable-Beef Stew

- 2 pounds beef chuck, cut in 1-inch cubes
- 2 tablespoons fat
- 2 teaspoons salt
- ¾ teaspoon paprika
- ¼ teaspoon basil leaves
- Dash pepper
- 1 cup onion slices
- 1 cup celery slices
- 6 whole medium carrots
- 6 whole medium potatoes
- 1 12-ounce can (1½ cups) vegetable-juice cocktail

Brown meat slowly in hot fat in pressure pan (about 15 minutes). Add seasonings, vegetables, and juice. Cook at 10 or 15 pounds pressure 10 to 12 minutes. Cool pan normally 5 minutes; then reduce pressure under cold running water. Thicken stew, if desired. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Mrs. Marjorie J. Boe, Mt. Prospect, Illinois

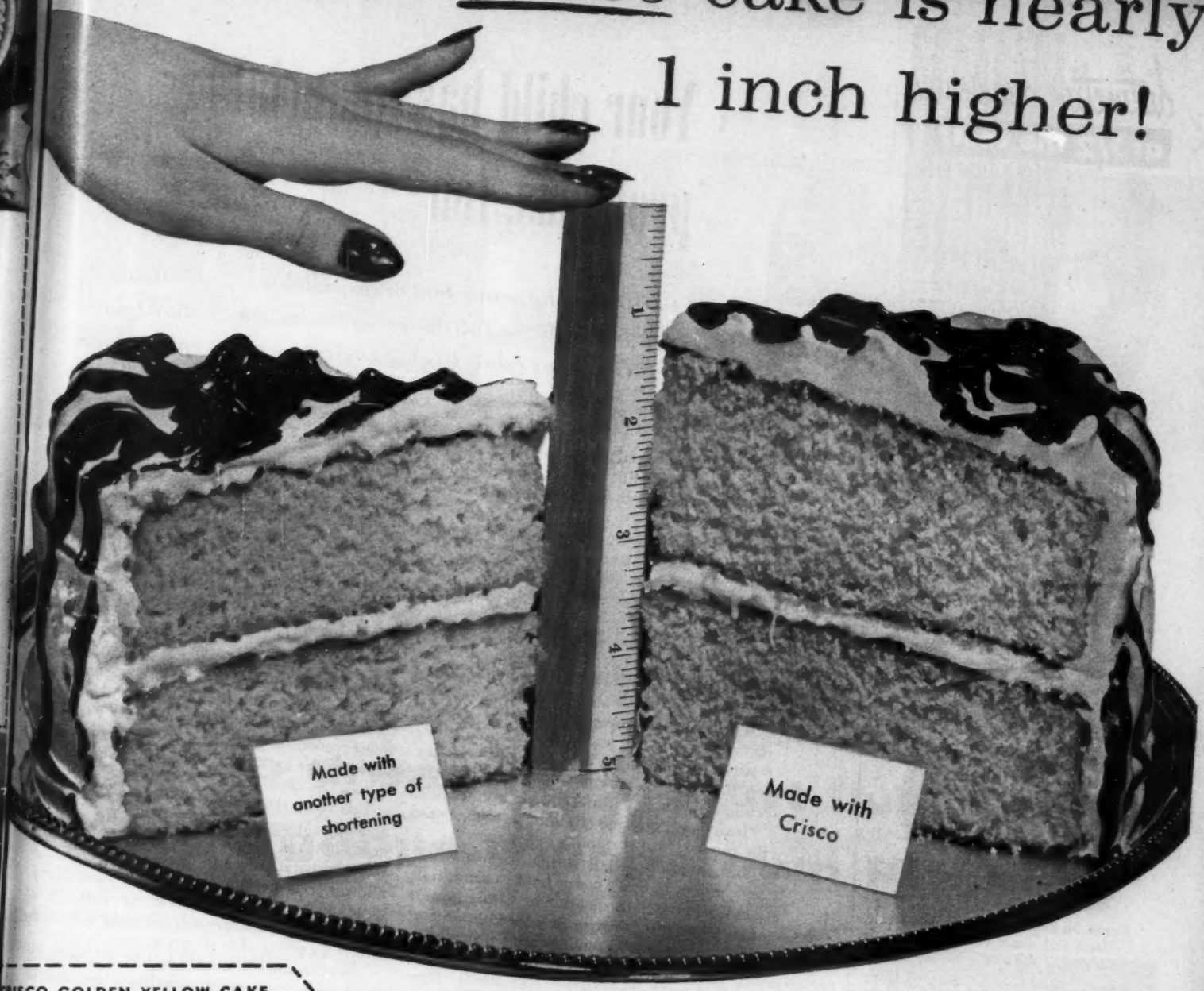
Sweet-sour Veal With Rice

Pass extra soy sauce for seasoning to your taste—

Drain 1 No. 2 can (2½ cups) pineapple tidbits, reserving syrup. Brown 1½ pounds veal, cut in 1½-inch cubes in 2 tablespoons hot fat; add 1 cup celery slices, ½ cup chopped onion, ¾ teaspoon salt, dash pepper, 1 beef bouillon cube dissolved in ½ cup hot water, and the pineapple syrup. Cover; simmer 60 to 75 minutes or until meat is tender. Add pineapple, one 1-pound can (2 cups) bean sprouts, drained, and one 3- or 4-ounce can (¾ cup) sliced mushrooms and liquid. Blend 3 tablespoons cornstarch, 3 tablespoons soy sauce, and 1 teaspoon monosodium glutamate; stir into hot mixture. Cook, stirring constantly, until thick. Serve over 3 cups cooked rice. Makes 6 servings.

Mrs. L. O. Walcutt, Huntington, West Virginia

Look . . . the Crisco cake is nearly 1 inch higher!



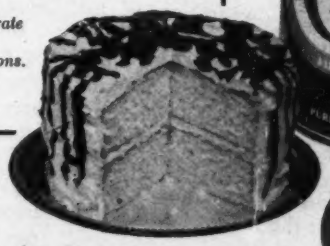
CRISCO GOLDEN YELLOW CAKE

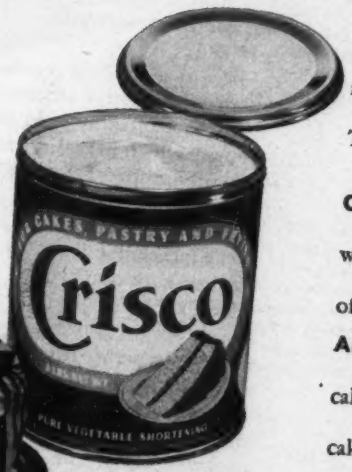
So easy to make—Just 2 mixing steps . . .

STEP 1—*Measure* (all measurements level): 2½ cups sifted cake flour, 1⅔ cups sugar, 3½ tsps. double-acting baking powder,* ⅔ cup Crisco, 1 tsp. salt. Add ¾ cup milk. Mix thoroughly by hand (300 strokes) or in mixer (medium speed) for *2 mins.*

STEP 2—Add ½ cup milk, 3 eggs (⅔ cup), 1 tsp. vanilla. Mix as above another *2 mins.* Pour batter into two 9" layer pans (1½" deep) which have been "Criscoed" or lined with paper. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) about 30 mins.

**With tartrate type, use 4½ teaspoons.*





Lighter, more tender too!

The picture above is proof that Crisco *alone* makes a fabulous difference! We made both cakes from the same recipe—changed only the shortening. And look! The Crisco cake is a whole bite-size bigger—higher by nearly an inch!

Crisco, you see, has a baking discovery that helps hold air in cake batter. That's why pure, all-vegetable Crisco gives you higher, lighter cakes than any other type of shortening.

And here's news! With the recipe given here, you can mix a homemade Crisco cake in just 2 steps—about *half* the time an ordinary cake would take! And a Crisco cake is not only higher—it's moister, fresher-keeping than *any* other kind. A cake you're proud to say is yours—*all* yours!

2 out of 3 bake and fry with Crisco . . . it's digestible!

Here is a distinguished collection of exquisite decorator fabrics. Here is a system, color coordinated by *Toni Moran,* that shows you how to make draperies at home the easy way. Or, if you prefer, *Toni Moran* Studio will make them to your measurements for less than you'd expect to pay for ready-mades. Either way you save money—*and* get that custom look.

4 Toni Moran DECORATOR FABRICS AT $1 A YARD!

Silk-Nub, a sturdy, sophisticated casement fabric with 100% silk texture. 14 colors, $1 per yard

Fiesta, an interesting two-toned fabric, feels and wears like costly mohair casement. 12 colors, $1 per yard

Antique Satin, a richly textured fabric with that hand-loomed look. 14 colors, $1 per yard

Faille, a soft, dignified fabric that is at home in traditional or contemporary rooms. 14 colors, $1 per yard

WRITE TODAY FOR COMPLETE SET OF 54 SWATCHES Send 25¢ for swatches of all fabrics in all colors. *Toni Moran* also sends you complete, easy-to-understand directions for ordering both yardage and made-up draperies.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Toni Moran STUDIO

Box 230, Pasadena, California

I enclose 25¢. Please send me one complete set of swatches and information on how to order *"Toni Moran"* fabrics and custom-made drapes.

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ADDRESS

CITY ZONE STATE

Your child has financial problems, too

By Julius Segal, Ph.D

A LOOK at the penny and dime problems of childhood can help forestall the full-blown dollar neuroses that today drain so many adult lives of their true value and meaning

We take for granted that financial problems don't become a reality for young people until they're well into adolescence and "out on their own."

Money? That's for parents to worry about. Perhaps because parents do worry so much about money, they overlook the very real financial problems of the children who share their lives.

But such problems are of crucial importance in personality growth. More and more, we hear of "money neuroses" among adults today.

Recently, an anxious mother spoke with me regarding what she feared was an abnormal, miserly attitude on the part of her 11-year-old son, Bert. She is often embarrassed by his frank requests for money from relatives and friends. "Please don't give me anything as a gift—just the money," is his standard request.

He wouldn't consider using his own allowance money to buy a comic book, a sundae, or a ticket to the Saturday movie. Either he gets these by begging them or he does without, and gladly, as long as his savings are not depleted.

When his parents ask him to perform errands or tasks, his standard response is "How much is it worth to you?" His ambition is to be "the richest man in the world."

I have since met the boy, and, if anything, his mother underestimated the depth of her problem.

Bert is a juvenile version of the anxious, money-driven man whose sense of security lies in the pot of shiny gold of the fairy tales, a security which in reality can never be reached but only groped for, with ulcers to mark the way.

Most important of all, I have since met Bert's father. He *is* that man, and he already has his share of ulcers.

Bert's intense need for "collecting" money is an almost mirror-like reflection of his father's desperate need to win emotional security via a fat bank account.

The value of going to a ball game, or fixing that broken bike, or attending a children's concert—all of the precious experiences of growing up—are weighed and measured by Bert's father in terms of "how much does it cost?" and "couldn't the money be saved for another purpose?"

Bert, like many other children who identify themselves with their fathers, has learned and accepted his father's scheme of values. He is a good boy when he saves, a bad boy when he spends. Slowly, the act of saving money has become for him the beginning and end of all security and happiness.

The allowance question

The center of Junior's monetary problems is inevitably the allowance. Sooner or later, every parent is beset with providing the youngster's "income."

How much money should he be given? How often? Do children know what to do with the money once they get it? Do they appreciate what they're getting? Would they be better off *without any* allowance?

Too often, the allowance is a casual, hit-and-miss attempt to satisfy both the child's needs and the parent's obligations.

The crucial reason for giving your child an allowance is overlooked. It isn't that every child on the block gets one—or that it's a handy way of reducing the "gimmes" (though this is a comfortable by-product).

An allowance, if used properly, is a method by which your child can learn to handle money in a sensible manner, and with a good sense of values.

First lesson in finance

The allowance you give your child should represent for him some indication of your family's economic status.

When Mr. Smith (an $85-a-week man) raises Bobby's allowance from one dollar to two dollars a week because Mr. Jones (a $150-a-week man) gives his Billy that much, Smith wins the immediate affection of his child—and, perhaps more important to the father, satisfies his own need to know that "my kid is as good as the Jones' kid."

But, in the long run, he's not doing right by Bobby. He is keeping from him a fact of life, just as important as the birds and the bees: that the amount a family spends must be measured by the amount of money the family has.

Bobby might be jealous for a while of his friends whose fathers make more money, but not for long if his parents [*Turn to page 141*

This lovely kitchen features 36" Diana Cabinet Sink, Undercounter Dishwasher, and Youngstown-Tappan built-in oven and cooking top.

Stop dreaming... start living... in a gorgeous Youngstown Kitchen!

Here's the practical way — whatever your home size — and you can afford it now!

It's as easy as 1-2-3 to replace that worn, warped, work-making kitchen with a bright, modern Youngstown steel Kitchen. Here's how . . .

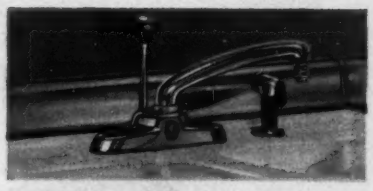
1. Let your Youngstown Kitchens dealer help you plan for the kitchen you want.

2. Start with your favorite Youngstown Kitchens cabinet sink—a beauty in Star White, Dawn Yellow, Meadow Blue, or Sunset Copper. You'll get an easy-to-clean, one-piece, porcelain-enameled steel top; roomy bowls; wide drainboards . . . and much, much more!

3. Add a Youngstown Kitchens Food Waste Disposer; add wall cabinets; add base cabinets with wonderful Formica tops. All-steel, they'll never warp, rot, swell, or absorb odors. Your completed Youngstown Kitchen will be the pride of your home and a joy to live in!

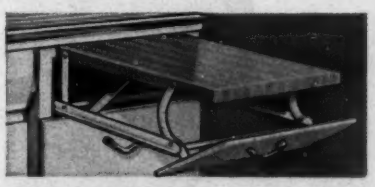
Why wait? Choose your cabinet sink . . . low down payment, easy terms. Stop dreaming . . . start living *now!*

This is the 48" Diana Cabinet Sink—all-steel, with a fine *baked-on* finish that stays bright and easy to clean for the life of your home. In Youngstown Kitchens cabinet sinks, you have a choice of many models and styles in sizes from 24" to 66" wide.



Convenient single-handle faucet, on many models, controls both temperature and flow of water with *one* handle. Includes aerator to prevent splashing, rinse spray, and five-year parts warranty!

42" Diana Cabinet Sink, like many models, offers stainless-steel front trim and back-splash to match base cabinets; deluxe mixing faucet with handy rinse spray; sound-deadened doors; models available with as many as five smooth-sliding drawers!



Handy, new cutting-board drawer locks at sink level for easy slicing and chopping. Mixer or grinder easily attached. Furnished on many models!

STEEL Youngstown Kitchens®

Sold in United States, Canada, and most parts of the world

MULLINS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION • WARREN, OHIO

World's Largest Makers of Steel Kitchens

FOR IDEA-FILLED BOOK on kitchens, send 10c in coin to Youngstown Kitchens, Dept. B-156, Warren, Ohio. For nearest dealer, check the yellow pages of your phone book; or call Western Union, Operator 25.

© 1956 Mullins Manufacturing Corporation

More zip per dip

with Del Monte... the only catsup made with the superlative vinegar that brings out the best in tomato flavor

There most certainly is a difference in catsups! Only DEL MONTE Catsup is made with Pineapple Distilled Vinegar. And, oh what *that* does to bring out the flavor of ripe tomatoes and tangy spices in catsup!

So why not make the familiar DEL MONTE name on the label your assurance of quality in catsup, as in so many other foods.

Try these other famous Del Monte Tomato Products, too!

Tomato Sauce Stewed Tomatoes Chili Sauce Tomato Juice Peeled Tomatoes

Money for your recipes

Frosty desserts and canned-meat fix-ups

CASH PRIZES will be sent to 21 winners in our new contest. Your best recipe for a frosty dessert or canned-meat fix-up may be a lucky one. Two top winners, the Cooks-of-the-Month, will receive $20 each. Nineteen other winners will receive $5 each. Eight of the winning recipes will be pictured in the Prize Tested Recipes next August. The winners of these 21 prizes will receive the *Better Homes & Gardens* Certificate of Endorsement and six copies of the endorsed recipe.

Hints to help you

Frosty desserts from your refrigerator or freezer—the kind you like to serve come summer. Is your specialty a chilled dessert—made with or without gelatin? Or is it home-made ice cream, sherbet, fruit ice, or a dress-up for commercial ice cream? Be sure to include any sauce recipe you may use. Ideas:

strawberry Bavarian cream
fresh-fruit parfait
orange sherbet
pineapple fluff
peach ice cream
raspberry ice
apricot pudding
ice-cream pie
frozen lime pie
cherry bisque

Canned-meat fix-ups. Your favorite may be a main dish you bake or barbecue, or it could be a casserole, skillet meal, sandwich, or salad bowl. You may feature canned luncheon meat, corned beef, ham, sausage, deviled ham, chicken, turkey, dried beef, meat balls, or you name it! Here are suggestions:

quick chow mein
deviled baked beans
baked luncheon meat
speedy meat pie
creole rice and Vienna sausage
hash—your special
chicken casserole
speedy chili
party baked ham

This month's winners

(*See recipes on page 87 and 88*)

Cook-of-the-Month

Mrs. Hildreth H. Hatheway, Santa Barbara, Calif.

Other Winners

Mrs. Paul Bjorklund, Hicksville, N.Y.
Mrs. Marjorie J. Boe, Mt. Prospect, Ill.
Mrs. Claude F. Heath, Sandston, Va.
Mrs. Doris Ann Krupinski, Milwaukee, Wis.
Theresa M. Lessmeister, Peru, Ill.
Mrs. Delbert McPherson, Orlando, Fla.
Mrs. L. O. Walcutt, Huntington, W. Va.

Honor Roll

Winnifred Craig, Moncton, N. B., Canada
Mrs. Roy Forman, Elliott, Ill.
Mrs. U. V. Henderson, Jr., Arlington, Va.
Mrs. Laura Dopita Marling, Cologne, Germany
Mrs. William H. McNitt, Silver Spring, Md.
Odette S. Moore, Atlantic, Iowa
Mrs. Dale Schimmelpfennig, Logan, Utah
Mrs. Guy R. Shaw, Fairview, W. Va.
Mrs. Devey D. Spurling, Chicago, Ill.
Mrs. Warren Stenstrom, Beloit, Wis.
Mrs. Roy Synstad, Nelson, Wis.
Mrs. Phyllis Turner, North Hollywood, Calif.
Mrs. Frank C. Woods, El Monte, Calif.

Contest rules

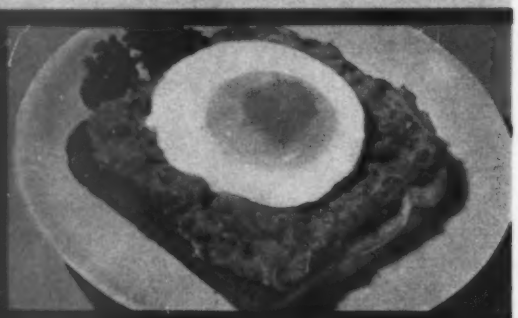
1. Write your recipe clearly on one side of the paper. Send but one recipe at a time, and mark it "August Frosty Desserts" or "August Canned-meat Fix-ups."
2. Print your full name and address in upper right corner of paper.
3. Give measurements in *level* cups, tablespoons, teaspoons—never in heaping or scant measurements.
4. Be sure to specify in your recipe the brand names of the *nationally* known food products you use as ingredients—products available everywhere. We must know them so we can test your recipe with the same brands you use.
5. Include 50 to 100 words about the origin of the recipe you submit.
6. Recipes submitted become property of *Better Homes & Gardens*.
7. Entries must be postmarked by midnight, January 31.
8. Address the recipes you enter to 5401 Tasting-Test Kitchen, *Better Homes & Gardens*, Des Moines 3, Iowa.

Perfect Rice Without Cooking!

1. **It's prepared instantly**—because only Minute Rice is *pre-cooked.* Just add it to boiling water and remove from heat.
2. **It's trouble-free.** No boiling! No draining! No sticky pans! And no *watching*—you always have *easy days* with Minute Rice.
3. **It's foolproof.** White, fluffy, delicious rice—perfect every time.
4. **It's just plain good eating.** Minute Rice is one of the best—and easiest—ways to round out a well-balanced meal.

Product of General Foods

Gala Rice Platter—*fast* favorite for big-family meals! Mix tasty Underwood Deviled Ham with creamed vegetables, spoon over fluffy rice. Makes a "company pretty" dish that's hearty, *thrifty!*



Poached Eggs and Underwood Treat. Spread Underwood's on crisp slices of toast, and top with poached egg. Quick trick for hot 'n filling breakfasts!

TV Snack Tray—so *easy* to fix, with spicy spread-'n-serve Underwood's. Lavish Underwood's on crackers and breads ... better make plenty!

To glorify everyday favorites ... just add
UNDERWOOD DEVILED HAM

Underwood Deviled Ham adds zest to salads ... sandwiches ... budget-stretching main dishes. Puts special flavor, extra nutrition in family favorites, for just pennies! Keep the big Family Size can on hand for main-dish treats . . . the Regular Size for quick, delicious snacks.

Glorifies Everyday Foods

Wm. Underwood Co., 85 Walnut St., Watertown 72, Mass.

A kitchen for warmth

Mom sits while her worksaving ironer takes over its big job. It helps her with *all* her ironing—dresses and blouses, and Dad's shirts included!

The posture chair reduces back strain and makes for comfortable sitting.

Bath towels, corduroys, and shag rugs are fluff-dried in the dryer, only need folding.

Touch up on collars and cuffs, soaking clothes, and flower arranging are a snap with this sink in the laundry room.

Sink is 48 inches wide, has sliding drainboard, two bowls—one deep, one regular.

Upper cabinets and undersink area store soaps, detergents, bleaches, starch, flower bowls and holders.

With sewing center in laundry and close to kitchen, Mother can do four things at once—wash clothes, use dryer, sew, keep eye on dinner cooking on automatic range. Base cabinet has two deep drawers for patterns, shallow one for notions. Cabinet above holds fabrics and mending. Fluorescent light under upper unit helps with close work

and durability

Begins on page 76

Dinner dishes hold no qualms, either. The "left-hand" helper, under-counter dishwasher, does them pronto.

Round tray on top revolves to get dishes extra clean. Both trays pull out for easy loading. A control lengthens or shortens washing cycles, too.

Behind neat birch front is a stackup of four drawers for little cooking, mixing, and cutting aids. Drawers help to keep kitchen tidy, organized.

They're seamless, one-piece kind with rounded corners like a bowl; are simple to clean.

"Never stand when you can sit" is this lady's motto. Here, she uses planning desk for telephone errands. Drawers at left hold linens, silver used in dining room (on other side of door seen in photograph). Upper cabinets house serving dishes, table appliances. Desk top also is used when there's a crowd and buffet dinner is the order of the day

"I hope you've tried the new Betty Crocker Brownie Mix, I hope!"

Betty Crocker OF GENERAL MILLS

"And so do I . . . because everybody loves brownies! From Grandpa right on down to the littlest toddler. Now, with my new Brownie Mix, they can have all the brownies they want—all the time. And it's the easiest treat you ever popped into an oven! You can make them fudgy—or you can make them soft and tender like cake. But make sure you make plenty! Seems everybody can be persuaded to eat just one more. Do bake up a quick-and-easy batch of Betty Crocker Brownies soon!"

"Better hurry to get yours—'cause they're selling like brownies!"

FILL UP THE COOKY JAR! EACH BOX MAKES 36 FUDGY BROWNIES!

Sis uses 750 dishes

Dad uses 570 dishes

Mom uses 770 dishes a month

Junior uses 720 dishes

Even baby uses 250 dishes

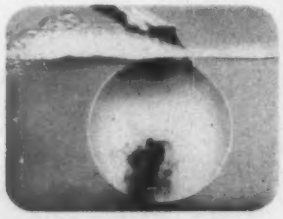
Get dishes out of the way FAST!

This gives you an idea of how many dishes you have to do every month. (And when you add those pots, pans and utensils—the total for most families is easily 3500.)

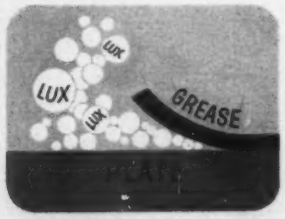
But Lux Liquid is made especially to help you get dishes done fast and easy. Just a teaspoonful does a dishpanful. And we know you'll appreciate the fact that it's Lux-mild on hands. (That's really mild!) Be sure to get Lux Liquid this week.

HOW LUX LIQUID CUTS UNDER GREASE AND FLOATS IT AWAY!

Thick gravy was poured on this dish and let stand for 10 minutes until it hardened



Just as soon as the dish is placed in the water Lux Liquid starts to do its work

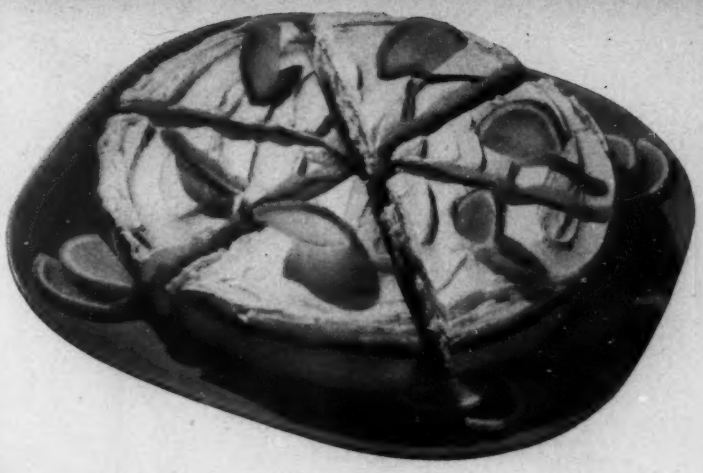


Lux Liquid's special action cuts under that grease, lifts it up and floats it right off

A quick rinse and the dish, as you can see, is beautifully and hygienically clean

and it's Lux-mild on your hands

IT'S THE NEXT BEST THING TO A DISHWASHING MACHINE



Fluffy Orange Cake. On top is sunny Orange Frosting. Beneath is a golden sponge cake with the fresh tingle of grated orange peel. Cut it in big wedges and garnish each with a jaunty candied orange slice. For extra color and trim, chop candied lime slices in bits and scatter over the top

Coffee Sponge. Dessert's a beauty—a bowl of smooth vanilla ice cream circled with slices of tender, coffee sponge cake. You'll want to serve it where all can watch. For a matching flavor, sprinkle ice cream with instant coffee

Party sponge cake

. . . *five delicious ways*

By Betty Brewer

EACH tender, feather-light cake in the pictures starts with the same easy recipe. But by adding a few simple ingredients, you can make five delightfully different cakes. With each, serve a luscious topping or velvety ice cream; pour cups of hot chocolate or spiced tea. And there you have a perfect answer to the what-to-serve question when you ask folks over for a chat or evening of games.

Chocolate Polka-dot Cake. Light, fine-grained, flecked with tiny bits of grated chocolate—the kind of cake that inspires your guests to ask for the recipe. The luscious topper is fluffy whipped cream and pretty chocolate curls

Photographs: Nelson, Photography, Inc.

Spicy Sponge Cake. The old-fashioned blend of the spices gives this new cake its delectable flavor and interesting dusky color.

Just before time to serve, top each slice with a spoonful of airy Apricot Whip and a juicy apricot half. Looks, tastes like a party!

Easy Sponge Cake. Perfectly delicious! Here we have generous wedges of sponge cake with high-hat puffs of cool Cocoa Cream Topper. Pass a dish of crispy salted nuts. And just listen to the compliments! Try topping on angel cake

Recipes on page 114

The smooth, smart way to cook... with modern

Evaporated Milk

Ever wonder—when two good cooks prepare identical dishes—why one often turns out extra smoo-o-oth and smackin' good?

Try the dozen recipe-delights on the attached page, and you'll know one big reason why. Evaporated milk . . . that's what makes your recipes smoo-o-oth, and very special. Thrifty, too—for evaporated milk goes so far; is easy to keep; blends perfectly with other ingredients.

Try evaporated milk. See how many of your everyday dishes are smooth, so good, made the modern evaporated milk way!

For modern magic in meal making use

Evaporated Milk

—makes ordinary recipes taste superb! It assures you smooth salad dressings, creamy pie fillings, tangy cheese sauces, velvety mashed potatoes and gravies, golden batter that clings to fowl, fish or meats, richly satisfying soups. Try the recipes at the right. See how evaporated milk puts more "m-m-m-m" in every dish!

You never outgrow your need for foods made from Milk!

Watch "DISNEYLAND" and "THE LONE RANGER", ABC-TV.

The dairy farmers across the nation want you to know— you can live better in every way with foods made from milk.

AMERICAN DAIRY ASSOCIATION

Voice of the dairy farmer—20 N. Wacker Drive, Chicago 6, Ill.

12 wonderful new recipes . . . smo-o-oth and very special made with Evaporated Milk

Baked Sesame Chicken

with Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

5-6 Servings — 9" x 13" Baking Pan

Baking Time: 50 Minutes to ¾ Hour—400° F.

- 1 3 lb. fryer-broiler, cut up
- 1 egg, slightly beaten
- ½ cup Evaporated Milk
- ½ cup flour
- ¼ teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 teaspoons paprika
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 3 teaspoons sesame seed
- ¼ cup ground nuts (optional)
- ½ cup butter

Combine egg with Evaporated Milk. Mix dry ingredients. Dip pieces of chicken into egg mixture, then into dry mixture to coat both sides.

Melt butter in shallow baking pan in 400° oven. Remove pan from oven. Place coated pieces of chicken, skin side down in single layer, in melted butter. Bake uncovered 25 minutes at 400° F. Turn and bake for 25-35 minutes more, or until tender. Note: If chicken cannot be served immediately keep it in oven with heat turned off and baste occasionally.

Chicken Gravy

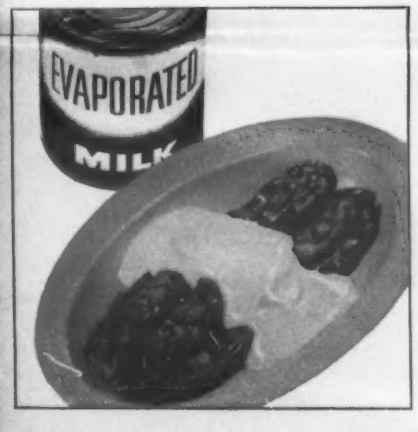
*Cook giblets, neck and back, saving broth for gravy. Cut giblets and meat from neck and back fine. Remove chicken to serving platter and keep warm. Add ¼ cup broth to butter in roasting pan. Simmer 5 minutes. Blend in 2 tablespoons flour. Gradually add 1 cup broth stirring constantly. Add 1 cup Evaporated Milk stirring until thickened. Add giblets. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Serve with mashed potatoes. *Two chicken bouillon cubes can be used for broth.

Mashed Potatoes

5 to 6 Servings

- 1½ cups water
- 1½ quarts peeled, diced potatoes (6 medium sized potatoes)
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 tablespoons butter
- ½ cup Evaporated Milk
- Salt and pepper

Bring water to boil in 3 quart kettle. Add salt and diced potatoes. Cover and cook until tender. Drain any water not absorbed. Mash potatoes. Add butter, Evaporated Milk and salt and pepper to taste. Beat until fluffy, adding more Evaporated Milk as desired to make potatoes extra smooth and light.



Asparagus with Cheese Sauce

4 Servings

- 1 lb. fresh or 1 package frozen asparagus
- ½ cup Evaporated Milk
- ½ lb. American Cheese, diced (Natural or Process)
- Dash of Cayenne or Tabasco

Cook asparagus.

Heat Evaporated Milk in saucepan over low heat. Add diced cheese and seasoning. Heat, stirring until cheese is melted and sauce is smooth. Serve on asparagus. Good also on broccoli or cauliflower.

(CLIP AND SAVE)

French Cherry Pie

9-Inch Pie

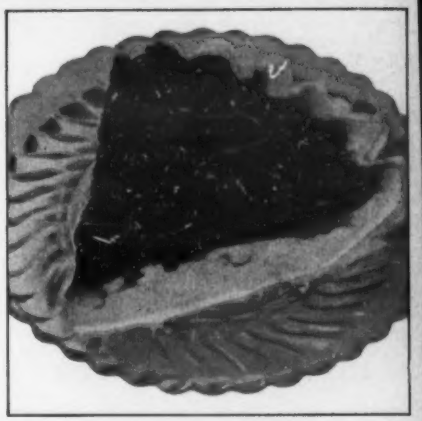
- 1 baked 9-inch pie shell
- ¾ cup sugar
- ⅓ cup cornstarch
- ⅛ teaspoon salt
- 1 cup boiling water
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup Evaporated Milk
- 1½ teaspoons unflavored gelatin
- 1 tablespoon cold water
- ¼ teaspoon almond extract
- 1 No. 2 can pitted sour cherries

Blend sugar, cornstarch and salt. Add water gradually, stirring to prevent lumping. Set over medium heat and cook, stirring constantly, until very thick.

Beat eggs, add Evaporated Milk. Slowly stir into cornstarch mixture. Soften gelatin in cold water and stir in. Continue to cook until mixture is smooth and thick, about 5 minutes. Cool. Add almond extract. Turn into cooled, baked 9-inch pie shell.

Drain cherries thoroughly, saving juice for glaze. Spoon drained cherries over filling. Spoon cherry glaze over cherries. Chill before serving.

Cherry Glaze: Blend 1 tablespoon cornstarch, ¼ cup sugar. Stir in slowly ⅔ cup juice drained from cherries. Cook over low heat stirring constantly until clear and slightly thickened. Remove from heat. Add ¼ teaspoon red food coloring mixing well. Cool slightly before spooning over pie.



Creamy Salad Dressing for Cole-Slaw

Makes 2 Cups

- ½ cup Evaporated Milk
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- ½ teaspoon dry mustard
- 1½ teaspoons sugar
- ¾ teaspoon salt
- Dash pepper
- ¼ cup finely chopped onion
- ⅓ cup finely chopped parsley
- ¼ cup creamed cottage cheese

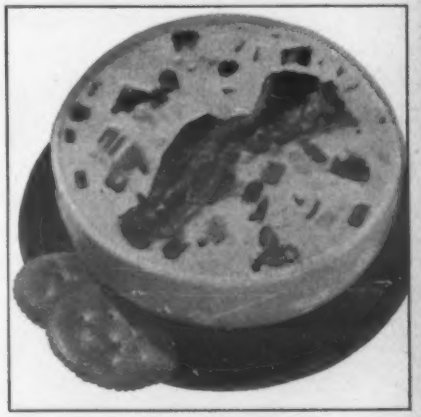
Chill Evaporated Milk in refrigerator tray until icy cold. Chill small bowl and beater. Blend mustard with lemon juice. Whip Evaporated Milk until stiff, adding lemon juice after the milk has started to stiffen. Fold in remaining ingredients, blending well. Mix with 3 cups chilled, shredded cabbage and serve immediately.

Corn and Bacon Chowder

6 Servings

- 6 slices bacon, diced
- ¾ cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped onion
- 2 tablespoons flour
- ¼ teaspoon celery salt
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup water
- 1 tall can (1⅓ cups) Evaporated Milk
- 1 #303 can cream style corn

Cook bacon, celery and onion in large saucepan until bacon is crisp. Blend in flour, celery salt and salt. Add water, mixing until smooth, then add the Evaporated Milk and the cream style corn. Mix until well blended and heat to serving temperature. Serve at once.



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Crabmeat Casserole

1 Quart Casserole — Baking Time: 30-35 min.—350° F. preheated oven — 4-5 Servings

- ¼ cup butter
- ⅓ cup flour
- ⅓ cup water
- 1 cup Evaporated Milk
- 1 6½ oz. can crabmeat
- 1 cup chopped celery
- ¼ cup chopped green pepper
- 1 pimiento, chopped
- 2 hard-cooked eggs, chopped
- 1 teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup slivered, blanched almonds, if desired
- ½ cup shredded, sharp cheddar cheese
- Buttered bread crumbs

Melt butter in saucepan. Blend in flour and mix well. Stir in water, then Evaporated Milk. Cook, stirring constantly, until white sauce thickens.

Drain crabmeat and remove cartilage. Flake crabmeat. Add crabmeat, celery, green pepper, pimiento, hard cooked eggs and salt to the sauce. Slivered blanched almonds may be added if desired.

Pour into buttered 1-quart casserole. Top with shredded cheese and buttered bread crumbs. Bake at 350° F. for 30-35 minutes.

Hamburger with French Fried Onions

4 large hamburgers

1 lb. ground beef — ¼ cup Evaporated Milk

Salt and pepper

Combine ground beef and Evaporated Milk, mixing well. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Shape into 4 large hamburgers and broil.

French Fried Onions: (4 Servings) Peel 2 large onions and slice about ¼ inch thick. Separate into rings. Dip in flour, then in 1 cup Evaporated Milk, then in flour again. Drop into deep hot fat (375° F.) and fry to golden brown about two to three minutes. Drain on absorbent paper and sprinkle with salt. Serve hot.

Fluffy Omelet with Cheese Sauce

6 Servings

- 5 eggs, separated
- ½ teaspoon cream of tartar
- 2 tablespoons flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- Few grains pepper
- 1 cup Evaporated Milk
- 3 tablespoons butter

Beat egg whites until foamy. Add cream of tartar. Beat until stiff but not dry. Beat egg yolks until thick and lemon colored. Add flour, salt and pepper. Mix until smooth. Add Evaporated Milk. Fold egg whites in lightly but thoroughly.

Melt butter in large, heavy skillet or omelet pan tipping so that butter coats sides and bottom. Pour in egg mixture. Cover and cook over low heat until mixture puffs—about 8 minutes. Uncover. Bake in same skillet in 325° preheated oven 15 minutes or until omelet feels dry on top. Fold over. Serve on warm platter with Cheese Sauce.

Cheese Sauce: Mix 1 teaspoon dry mustard with ½ cup Evaporated Milk in saucepan. Add ½ lb. sharp Cheddar cheese, diced. Stir over low heat until melted and smooth. Butter-browned mushrooms may be added if desired.

(CLIP AND SAVE)

Refrigerator Yeast Rolls

2 dozen rolls — 425° F. preheated oven—10-15 minutes

- ½ cup boiling water
- 1¼ teaspoons salt
- ¼ cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons butter
- ½ cup Evaporated Milk
- 1 cake compressed yeast
- ¼ cup lukewarm water
- 2 eggs
- 3½ cups sifted flour

Pour boiling water over salt, sugar, butter in mixing bowl. Add Evaporated Milk. Soften yeast in lukewarm water and add to first mixture. Beat eggs and add.

Add about half of the flour. Beat to blend well. Add remainder. Beat until smooth. Let dough rise in warm place until double in bulk (about 1½ hours). Beat dough again. Cover and keep in refrigerator overnight. Remove from refrigerator and beat.

Butter muffin pans. Fill each ⅔ full with ball of dough. Or shape dough into pan rolls or cloverleaf rolls. Let rise until doubled in bulk (about 1 hour). Bake in 425° F. preheated oven for 10-15 minutes or until golden brown.

Potato Puff

1 Quart Casserole — 325° F. preheated oven—50-60 minutes

6 Servings

- 3 tablespoons butter, melted
- 2 cups cold mashed potatoes
- 2 eggs
- 1 cup Evaporated Milk
- Salt to taste

Beat melted butter into mashed potatoes until creamy and smooth. Beat eggs until they are light and lemon colored. Add to potato mixture. Then add Evaporated Milk and beat well. Salt to taste. Butter a 1-quart casserole. Pour in potato mixture and bake in 325° F. oven 50-60 minutes or until puffed and light brown. Serve *immediately*.

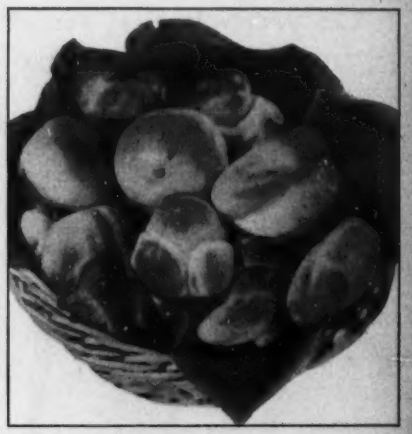
Lime and Pineapple Bavarian

6 Servings

- 1 9-oz. can crushed pineapple
- 1¼ cups liquid (pineapple juice combined with water)
- 1 package lime flavored gelatin
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 cup Evaporated Milk
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 navel oranges
- ¼ cup coarsely chopped pecans (optional)

Drain juice from crushed pineapple. Add water to juice to make 1¼ cups liquid. Heat to boiling point. Mix gelatin and sugar in mixing bowl. Pour hot liquid over gelatin and stir until dissolved. Chill until partially set.

Chill Evaporated Milk in ice cube tray until icy cold. Chill small bowl and beater. Whip Evaporated Milk until stiff, adding lemon juice after milk has started to stiffen. Fold whipped Evaporated Milk and drained pineapple into gelatin. Spoon into 6 sherbet dishes. Chill until set. Peel oranges, separate into segments and remove membrane. Just before serving Bavarian, garnish with orange segments. If pecans are desired, toast them in 375° F. preheated oven until crisp (about 5 minutes). Top each portion with pecans just before serving.



We found our Eden in Mexico

FRIENDLY people . . . ideal climate . . . superb scenery . . . exciting history . . . that's Nayarit! And all this not far from the ever-welcome United States' border. It took us nine months to find it, but we lived there for three months on less than $2 a day

The red flag went up immediately, denoting that a sailfish or a marlin had been hauled aboard

Photographs: Author

← Rounding a bend, Mexcaltitan, a small island, came into sight. Reached only by dugout canoe, a few hundred families inhabit it

You can use any of the Texas ➡ ports of entry, via Guadalajara, or go through Nogales, Arizona

By John Vincent O'Ryan

For three months my wife and I lived on less than $2 a day! This, after a nine months' search covering over half of Mexico. We logged all that mileage to find some spot answering the overworked connotation of "Shangri-la."

Briefly, we were looking for inexpensive living, climate, good hunting, fishing, and/or loafing, secluded accessibility, friendly folks to live near, yet few in number. And all this not too far away from the ever-welcome United States' border.

My wife, Jody, and I, and Nosey Poker, our faithful cocker, just came away from such a spot. Our Eden (the plural might well be used here since several others adjoin) is located in Nayarit, Mexico. This happens to be one of that country's virtually unknown, unsung states situated in its last great western frontier. A state shot through with superb scenery, exciting history, playing a dominant role in the era of the Spanish conquest and also the home of the picturesque Cora and Huichol Indians, nature folks living in the near-inaccessible and ever mystic Sierra Madre Occidental.

Using any port of entry on the Texas side and going by way of Mexico's most romantic city, Guadalajara, or through Nogales on the Arizona border, you head for Tepic, capital of the state of Nayarit, via excellent paved highway. It can be reached also by plane, train, and bus. Tepic is your jumping-off point.

In Tepic, which boasts several good hotels, my advice is to put up at the Posada de la Loma Motel. [*Turn to page 105*

No other fitted sheets like 'em . . . and they're ON SALE in January!"

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Make your store Contest Headquarters • Help your customers win one of the 147 cash prizes

Better Homes & Gardens 1956 Home Improvement Contest

$25,000 in cash prizes (for homeowners)

(SEE PAGE 53 FOR DETAILS)

This issue announces the 1956 Home Improvement Contest

More than 4,000,000 families (and millions more who borrow BH&G each month) will be reading about the new year-long 1956 Home Improvement Contest in this issue of Better Homes & Gardens.

Incentive: $25,000 in cash prizes. Your customers can win. Order the free tie-in materials today!

Any family can enter—any entry may win! Your customers will be looking for Official Preliminary Entry Forms to enter the contest. Entry blanks are available *only* from Official Contest Headquarters and BH&G. Make *your* store Contest Headquarters—get customers into *your* showroom to pick up their entry forms. Help them enter the contest, plan and execute their projects and win prizes.

Here's how your customers enter:

- They pick up entry forms from your store.
- They enter their project in any one of the four divisions—exteriors, interiors, additions or kitchen-utility. Almost any project is eligible to win.
- They send in their entries to BH&G and receive by return mail the free 32-page Home Improvement Contest Book.

Your store can profit—and win prizes, too

Here is how you can make your store official 1956 Home Improvement Contest Headquarters:

1. Fill out the coupon on this page and send it to us today.
2. Better Homes & Gardens will:

- Send you free display kit (newspaper mats, streamers, posters and plenty of entry forms)
- Send you information on how you can enter the dealer contest
- Put your name on the VIP (very important people) list to receive the Contest Newsletter.

ACT NOW! MAKE YOUR STORE CONTEST HEADQUARTERS—GIVE CUSTOMERS THE SERVICE THEY WANT, AND BUILD TRAFFIC SALES!

The 1956 Home Improvement Contest is backed by Better Homes & Gardens and its famous-name advertisers. It is good business to sell the quality products advertised in BH&G—and you'll find business mighty good when you do. So DO IT NOW! ORDER YOUR CONTEST DISPLAY KIT!

This free offer is for dealers in the building and allied industries *only*. We regret that we cannot extend the offer to other Better Homes & Gardens readers.

PLEASE SEND THIS COUPON ALONG ON YOUR COMPANY LETTERHEAD, OR WITH YOUR BUSINESS CARD

Name.....

Store name.....

Store address.....

City.....Zone.....State.....

BH 156

Better Homes & Gardens
1956 HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTEST
1716 Locust Street
Des Moines 3, Iowa

Please rush me your Contest Brochure and dealer's kit. I want to get started right now, planning to make my store Headquarters for your 1956 Home Improvement Contest.

We found our Eden

Begins on page 102

Mariachi croons (or groans) a sad, sentimental ballad. Unusual as it may sound, a spirit of hospitality and eagerness to assist was the prevailing one encountered throughout the Nayarit country

There are trailer facilities as well as rooms. It is clean as a hospital corridor and good food is available. Carlos Gomez, the proprietor, will show you around, put you wise, or just make you plain bienvenido (welcome).

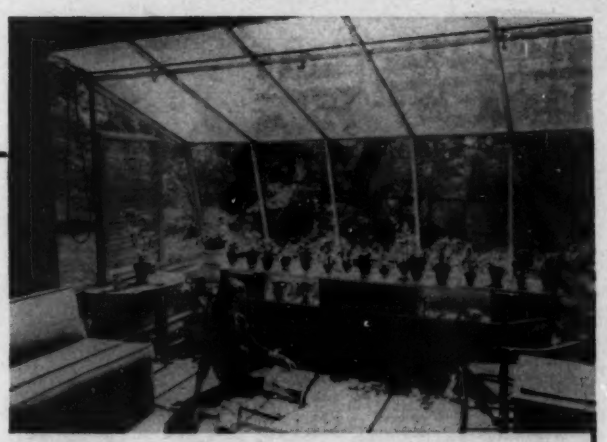
The paved highway to the focal point of Nirvana, 45 miles distant, leads through a dense tropical jungle the latter part of the way. This behind, you feel as if a lush coconut-palm curtain has been drawn and that you have arrived in another world. You enter the dozing village of San Blas. Once this now sanded-in port had a population of over 20,000.

We became acquainted with the San Blasians and their beloved land. In no other part of Mexico I covered did the natives live a more Utopian life. *A life that you and I could easily embrace, too, if we wished, but with a few reservations. And some added refinements.* In short, one free of want and worry.

Scattered through many acres of coconut-oil, coconut-palm, plan-

[*Turn to next page*

Part of an old Spanish townsite crests a hill which overlooks San Blas. The church Longfellow wrote about in "The Bells of San Blas," depicting the lost grandeur of the village, now lies in ruins



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Free Catalog 20-1

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PROOF! **"5 Feet of Water In Basement Until We Used ROX"**

"Our basement was so bad that we would have to pump out 4 to 5 feet of water. It was considered by contractors and builders as the worst basement in this area. After trying dozens of preparations, we tried Rox Masonry Paint. We followed the simple directions and the results have been amazing. For the first time in 13 years, the basement is usable."—Midland Furniture Co., Midland, Michigan.

PROOF! **ROX Painted Exterior Still Good After Several Years**

"After using several masonry paints on the walls of our block buildings, we found that within six months to a year the paints would blister and peel. A number of painters and paint experts all suggested Rox Masonry Paint because it was guaranteed not to blister or peel. Our buildings were painted with Rox several years ago and are still in perfect condition."—W. D. Andrews, V. P., Hazel Park Racing Assoc., Hazel Park, Mich.

Insist on Rox Masonry Paint in the blue and white can. Easy to use. Requires only water for mixing. No primer necessary. Odorless. In gleaming white and popular colors at authorized Rox dealers in U. S. and Canada. Write for free literature and name of your nearest Rox dealer.
Rox Products Co., Detroit 27, Michigan

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Planning a new kitchen? Get this idea-ful WOOD-METAL DREAM KITCHEN CATALOG

IT SHOWS — Custom-designed kitchens in Colonial and Contemporary styles. 12 decorator colors and 10 natural wood finishes selected by Elizabeth Burris-Meyer, consulting colorist. Cabinet units designed for built-in ranges and ovens. Accessories that help you breeze through kitchen tasks. Work area layouts that save time and effort.

Send 25c for this new Dream Kitchen Catalog.

Guaranteed by Good Housekeeping

WOOD-METAL kitchens

Dept. 37, Kreamer, Snyder County, Pa.

For those who demand the finest

We found our Eden

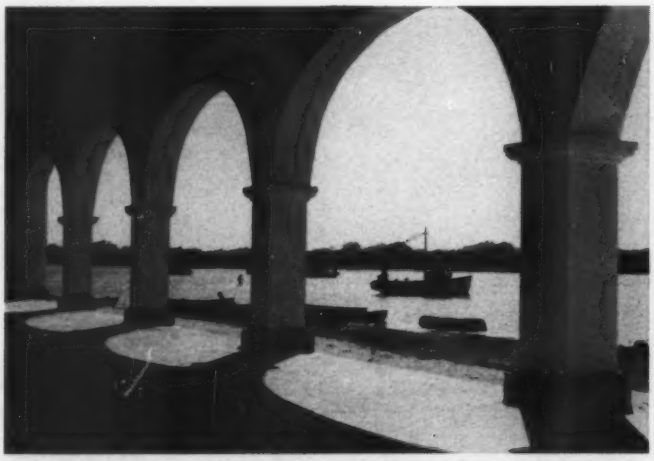
Continued from page 105

As we approached the island of Mexcaltitan, the cracked bells in the church started ringing out a welcome to us. Half of the population, headed by their priest, Padre Jesus Ponce, was on hand to greet us

tain, and banana plantations are nestled neat, native huts. Unpretentious, picturesque, inexpensive to erect, these functional homes are constructed of sturdy willow poles spaced apart for ventilation. Cooking is done outdoors under the tall, swaying palms. In fact, except for sleeping, life is lived outdoors. Chickens, dogs, ducks, pigs, and children scurry underfoot in a happy, noisy jumble.

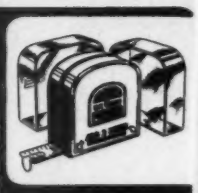
Each native owns his own small acreage, most of it acquired under Mexico's sweeping land-reform laws which cut up the feudal haciendas with their *peon* system of labor (virtual slavery) into smaller tracts under the so-called *ejido* (communal) setup. For food and drink, for sale or barter, the native's productive *palmeras* supply him with most of his wherewithal; something he actually has nothing much more to do about than climb the lofty palms to harvest his coconuts. And this nut, much like the hog, is wholly usable: its meat to eat, milk to drink, its hard shell for scoops, dishes and such, its outer shell yielding fiber for door mats or making excellent scouring pads.

Quick-producing crops such as papayas, bananas, and plantains, the latter high in food value and excellent eating, form an additional source of food or income. The Pacific Ocean in his front yard, the nearby rivers, estuaries, lagoons supply the native a super abundance of any kind of fish, plus



With a harbor that is now sanded-in, the dozing village of San Blas, focal point of Nirvana, once boasted a population of over 20,000. San Blasians live a Utopian kind of life—one free from want and worry

Insist on *Evans* TAPES KING-SIZE At your hardware store



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We found our Eden *Continued*

clams "growing" in clusters on the fantastically twisted roots of the mangroves. And if that weren't enough, the forests teem with deer, parrots (fine eating), quail, dove, rabbits, and iguanas, those prehistoric looking lizards whose meat is a gourmet's delight. The same jungles offer superb hunting of tigers, ocelot, and the edible but dangerous when around *jabali*, to mention a few.

Work, as we know that word, simply doesn't appear in a San Blasian's vocabulary. He might make an elegant pass at it, but never did I see anyone *labor*. The coco-oil farmer harvests his crop as the mood moves him, then turns it over to his cooperative. Even the fishermen have their own union and distribution setup, a palm-frond shack with indifferent icing facilities where the day's catch is taken and sold to all comers.

We next moved our trailer to the Pacific's front yard, the superb, miles long, hard, smooth beaches of San Blas and adjoining Matanchen, like Daytona's, solid enough to drive on or land a plane.

This was the beginning of months of beachcombing de luxe for us: swimming, sun and moon bathing, canoeing, deep-sea or surf fishing, lazy sightseeing, and visiting with an ever-increasing circle of friends. Or just plain "doing nothing," inevitably dozing off, hypnotized by the ceaseless song of the surf.

With the exchange at the incredible (for us) rate of over 12 pesos for our dollar, giant plantains, two making a full meal, cost 2 cents a piece. Papayas, mangoes, avocados, bananas, cherimoyas, limes, and especially succulent pineapple grown in Indian Sierra country were offered at ridiculously low prices.

One morning early there was a hesitant rap on the trailer door; an Indian youth offering a sackful of *codornices* (live quail), just trapped. After a bit of give and take, the lot of 50 chunky birds was acquired for $1.75. For an extra 5 pesos the bunch was killed, cleaned, and plucked and for a day or so, often repeated thereafter, we had Lucullan feasts of quail in every conceivable form.

In ever more-infrequent spurts of energy, now about having mastered the amazing art of keeping terribly busy doing absolutely nothing but relaxing, we'd go out fishing with some *amigo* or other, cruising along the coast line with all its other hidden beaches and coves, such as jewel-like, crescent-shaped Chacala and romantic Miramar. The deep-sea fishing in this area is far more exhilarating and sporting than in such tourist-haunted resorts as Acapulco, Mazatlan, or Guaymas. No slick, chrome-trimmed speedboats here. The fishing is done from outmoded, slow but seaworthy working boats, manned by professional fishermen. The craft can be sailed if the engine conks out, not an infrequent occurrence, but adding extra zest and sport. And, the crew fish for fish, not tips!

Our actual cost of living, of eating, and drinking what Nature here so bountifully offered, amounted to about $50 dollars per month!

Our getting acquainted with one Senor Miguel Lanzagorta Escutia, Don Mike for short, was a lucky break. This very ebullient *caballero* owns the Posada del Bucanero, as charming and hospitable a caravansary as you will find, anywhere. Rates in this ancient Spanish mansion revamped into a hotel are surprisingly low: 35 pesos per person daily, American plan, with special weekly and monthly rates. The Bucanero has a Spanish chef who puts out international cuisine of note. Included in this is the use of the Canay del Bucanero, a large bathhouse on the beach, where guests are served lunch and can loll around and shower after a swim. Being independently wealthy, excessively (and rightly) proud of

[*Turn to next page*

My senora, Jody, bought some *gorditas* at a roadside bakery. They're big, luscious-looking corn muffins, but be prepared for quite a surprise when you eat them. The natives bake a big *hot* pepper inside!

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We found our Eden in Mexico

Continued from preceding page

his lovely native state of Nayarit, and speaking our language after years in the United States, Don Mike took us in tow. As he will you! With him we roamed and boated far and wide; through him we saw places and things the average tourist simply does not. It was Don Mike who arranged a jaunt to nearby Mexcaltitan, a tiny dot on a few maps, absent from most. And itself worth a visit to Nayarit.

This unbelievable islet lies at the mouth of the San Pedro River; can be reached only by dugout canoe, harbors a few hundred contented fishing families and, a thing quite unheard of in Mexico, doesn't sport one single burro!

Never had I felt more like a visiting potentate than when our craft finally rounded a bend and hove in sight of this tiny fisherman's paradise. Suddenly the great, cracked church bells started ringing as a welcome to us. Half of the population, headed by their priest, Padre Jesus Ponce, was on hand to greet us. It had been a long, long time since *norteamericanos* had set a foot on their 300x400 yards of tierra.

And we still look back to our Mexcaltitan visit as a fantastic dream; one overflowing with memories of children, pigs, dogs, ducks, and cows happily wallowing around in the shallow waters, of sailing canoes darting hither and yon, of hospitality and . . . food.

Just as summer approached and prior to the heavy June rains we witnessed an interesting sight. Quite unexpectedly, even spookily, small groups of Cora or Huichol Indians would appear from nowhere, solemnly march waist-deep in the sea. After going through some sort of ceremonial, they would "plant" corn in Mother Sea, broadcasting the seed. And this in supplication to their deity to grant bountiful maize crops.

The Coras and Huicholes are easily distinguished by their strange pancake headgear and the fine embroidery on the men's clothing. The Huicholes trim their sombreros by hanging oval trinkets, often flattened bottle tops, on the brim. The number of these is supposed to indicate the livestock they own.

These peaceful folks, expert as hunters and trackers, are tremendous long-distance hikers like their Tarahumara brethren on the other side of the Sierra Madre Occidental. For no apparent good reason, they'll come to town, gawk around at civilization which they want no part of, window-shop, then calmly march back again the 100 miles or so to their mountain hideouts.

Whatever is said about them: dirty, lazy, shiftless, there is this remarkable (and refreshing) difference between them on one side, the Mexicans and us on the other. We have nothing they want; they have something most of us crave badly. These Indians know where the gold is in the Sierras. No one, not even the cruel, gold-hungry Spaniard ever has been able to elicit or torture this information from them.

On this memorable trip, our main problems, housing and inexpensive living (in solid comfort!) had been solved by the acquisition of a good, used *travel* trailer. Lacking a trailer, there are other avenues open to the visitor who might want to tarry and save on expenses. For those imbued with a sporting, pioneering spirit, camping is feasible, becoming increasingly popular—and quite safe. Never were we the slightest annoyed or molested, no matter where we parked our trailer. In isolated spots, especially, the natives would stare in wide-eyed wonderment at our glistening house. We always invited them in and, for the timid youngsters, Jody made it a point always to have a stock of inexpensive *dulces* (sweets).

Hotel rates in this part of the country vary, from about $6—American plan—in the plush places, down to the unbelievable level of slightly more than $1 a day for clean room and substantial board in the off-the-main-highway *pueblos!*

Houses of various dimensions, some actually ancient and huge mansions, can be rented reasonably in Tepic; there is a housing shortage now in San Blas. But it would be no great trick at all to build an improved, typically San Blasian native *casita*, for about as much as you and I would probably pay out in a month or two rental.

As for us? We already have established our own beachhead, having managed, through fortuitous circumstances or just plain Hibernian luck, to acquire the type of dream lot one reads about. Here someday I hope to park my specially equipped trailer and augment it with a cool palm-frond utility shack.

However, not quite all is moonlight and roses in my Nirvana. San Blas, the entire coast line, is subject at times to the same pestiferous bugs found in the Florida Keys, sand flies, called *jejenes* in Mexico and "no-sees" by my spouse. They swarm and sting when a lull occurs in the trade winds. The remedy is simple, daub some anti-insect liquid on, get behind screen, burn some trash or palm leaves. The smoke chases them off. Then too, this coastal plain gets hot and humid in summer. So do New York, Kansas City, and Miami Beach. But you always have pleasant Tepic to fall back on, in less than an hour's super-scenic drive.

Time, which no one pays any attention to back there, sneaked up on us. The expiration date of our tourist permits was marching towards its deadline and business stateside was calling. It took us a solid week to bid our new friends *adios*. And, *hasta luego*, for sure.

And so, *mi amigos*, go west—to Western Mexico and its Nayarit Nirvana.

He brought snow to New Guinea

DECEMBER 24, 1944. The airstrips bake under a blazing sun. No breeze stirs the kunai grass. A posted notice tells you Jap subs sank the ship carrying Christmas packages.

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[*Turn to page 126*

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Roses—Be the neighborhood champ

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YOUR PET AND MINE

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dog to obey

By Dr. Wayne H. Riser

Puppies learn quickly by repetition

Start teaching your puppy to sit by pulling up on the leash with one hand while pushing down his hind quarters with the other, simultaneously commanding "sit." Repeat this in succession until he's learned it. Then, command him to "sit" before he goes out, before he comes in, before feeding, and so on

Photographs: Harriet Arnold

Walking to heel keeps dog under control

Have dog "sit" at your left side with slackened leash. With command "heel," start on brisk walk. Dog will bound forward. As leash tightens, jerk it and quickly reverse direction. This puts dog at your left, behind you. Repeat, over and over, using command each time you turn. Praise at the right time will help

More on page 133

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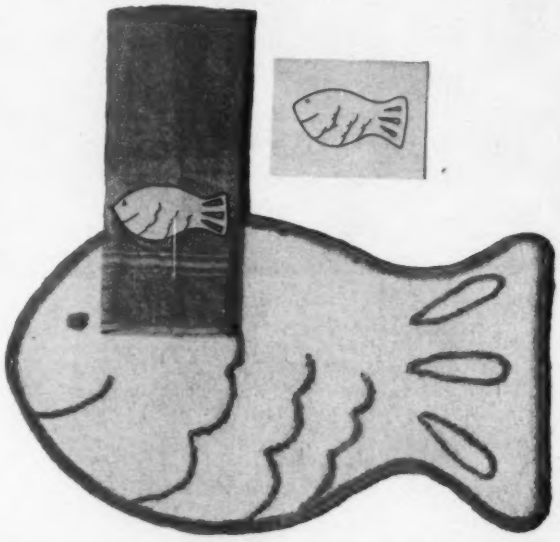
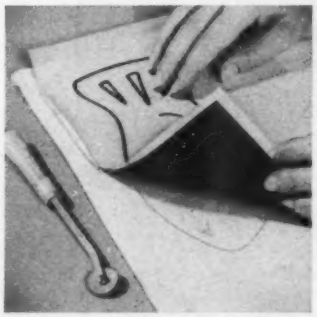
Each machine is a bit different mechanically. So check instruction book and local sewing center.

Here's how to applique a design



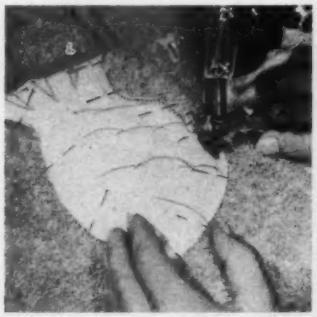
Choose a simple outline form such as the fish motif shown in color on page 65. Size of design is decided by folding towel in thirds—so it's larger on bath towel than face towel. Fabric for appliqued pieces, and thread, which you use for outlining, can be chosen to repeat or accent other colors used in the bathroom



1 First, draw shape of the fish on paper and copy details of bath mat.

Trace design on fine percale. It is long wearing and launders well. Use a tracing wheel and dressmakers' carbon to transfer design to percale.

It helps to pin paper to fabric so lines won't slip. Work on firm padded surface to prevent sharp wheel from marring top. Trim design.



2 Pin applique piece firmly to the towel. Machine-baste fabric to towel with wide, zigzag stitch.

Now adjust machine to satin stitch and go over all lines. Outline of fish is wider than other lines.

After first layer of satin stitches cut out openings in fishtail so that toweling shows. Next layer covers raw edges—gives padded effect.

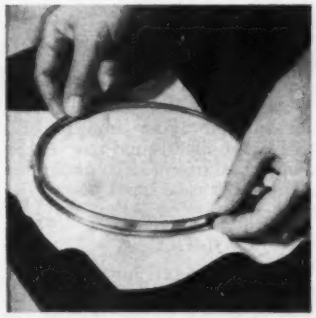
personal touch

Buy a pattern or design your own

Let the whole family get in the act! Fanciful designs of yours or children's can be just right to outline or applique.

These ideas of "at home" artists are almost as easy to sew as stitching a seam. They use block letters, squarish shapes, and gradual curves.

Set machine for satin stitch. Attach the grooved or channeled foot. Pin paper pattern to towel; stitch. Go over the stitches for padded effect.



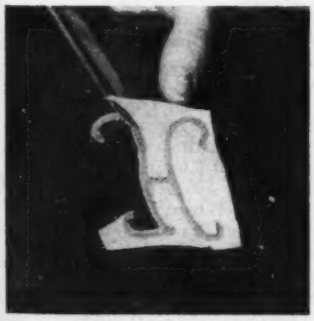
1 Some monogram letters which you buy are script type. (Picture 4.) They need special handling, so the towel won't pucker, and so you can achieve a tapered effect.

For body, some companies suggest a backing of unwoven interfacing. To hold towel and backing taut use embroidery hoop. Attach it to the wrong side of the towel.

2 Now turn work to right side. Pin paper pattern of monogram in place. For three-letter monogram as on page 61, trace all on one pattern.

You can work with or without grooved foot. Hoop *must* be used when foot is removed. Here, hoop keeps work firm. First stitching is relatively narrow. As you stitch, paper pattern falls away.

Photographs: Hopkins



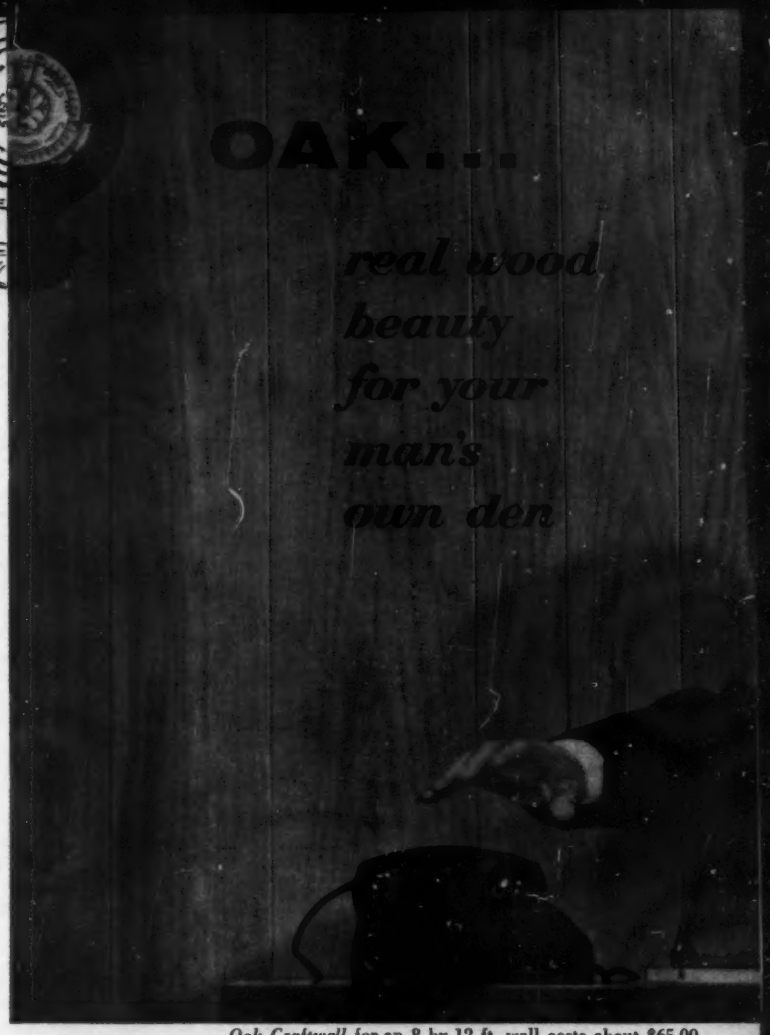
3 Now remove hoop. On wrong side of towel, clip backing close to the stitches, after removing hoop.

Replace hoop; on right side go over letter with wider stitch.

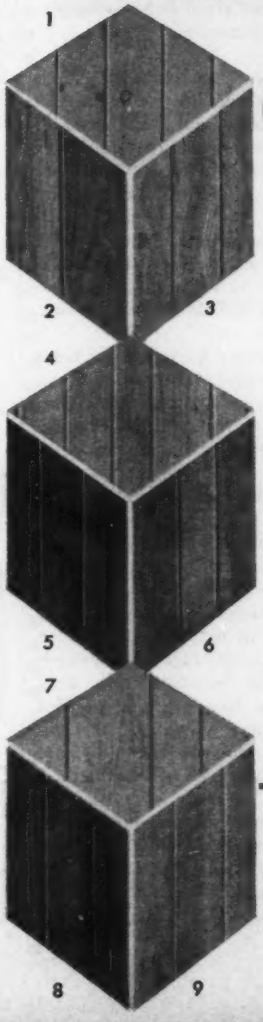
After practicing, you can taper letters; one way is to turn towel under needle. On some machines you can taper letters by moving width lever (also called bight).

4 This monogram, stitched with machine-embroidery thread has a satiny sheen. Try mercerized thread, too. Some companies suggest different sizes for needle and bobbin.

Experiment with letters, designs. Your machine may taper letters automatically. Explore personalized touches you can gain with sewing machine. It's exciting and fun.



Oak Craftwall for an 8 by 12 ft. wall costs about $65.00.



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***These* FOODS *are* NEWS!**

Frozen Cantonese dinner has generous serving of chicken-almond chop suey, two egg rolls, and fluffy rice in each 12-ounce package. Just heat meal on its aluminum-foil tray in the oven.

Chocolate-covered cordial cranberries are delicious new candies—the result of a process of preserving cranberries whole, discovered at the University of Wisconsin. Packed in 14-ounce boxes.

Red-kidney-bean salad now comes canned—all ready to chill and serve on lettuce. Has refreshing, tart flavor, and the celery in it is really crisp. Each 15-ounce can makes 3 to 4 servings.

Pepper process-cheese food is in the shops, packaged in 6-ounce links. The interesting spicy flavor comes from Mexican Jalapeno pepper and pimiento.

Bagels in cans—a first! These doughnut-shaped, crusty rounds are prebaked and ready to eat—plain or sliced and toasted. Guaranteed to stay fresh for 1 year. Four bagels are packed in 5-ounce can.

Canned orange and apricot juice is a nice cocktail blend. This breakfast juice is vitamin-C enriched. Packed in 12- and 46-ounce cans.

Herb teas are back. Newest kinds available are: parsley, oat straw, sage, and sarsaparilla. They contain no tannic acid or caffeine. Packed 10 or 30 tea bags to a box.

Orange-flavored, noncaloric carbonated beverage is wonderfully fizzy. It has good color and flavor. Bottles contain 16 ounces.

High-calorie food supplement is designed to help folks intent on gaining weight. It is granular—pleasant to eat alone or use it in cooking or baking. Eight rounded tablespoons supply about 720 calories. Thiamin and vitamin B-12 are added. Packed in 1-pound can.

Salad-dressing mixes come in two new flavors—old-fashioned French and garlic-cheese. Just add water, vinegar, salad oil; then shake. Each foil envelope makes 8 servings.

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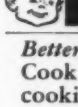

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Frozen horse-radish retains all the snappiness and color of the freshly grated root. Cans contain 4 ounces.

Party sponge cake

Begins on page 97

Party Sponge Cake

A feathery, company-style cake you can make five different ways—

1 cup sifted cake flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt
2 eggs
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ cup milk
1 tablespoon butter or margarine

Sift together flour, baking powder, and salt. With electric mixer, beat eggs till thick and foamy, about 3 minutes; gradually add the sugar, beating constantly till well blended. Add vanilla; then beat thoroughly, about 4 minutes. Meanwhile scald milk; add butter and stir to melt. To egg mixture, quickly add sifted dry ingredients; stir by hand till just mixed. Stir in the milk mixture. Pour into paper-lined 9x1½-inch round pan. Bake in moderate oven (350°) about 35 minutes. Let cake stand in pan 15 minutes before removing.

Variations

Coffee Sponge: Add 1½ teaspoons instant coffee to ½ cup hot water. Use hot coffee instead of milk.

Fluffy Orange Cake: Add 1½ tablespoons grated orange peel to batter just before pouring into pan.

Spicy Sponge Cake: Sift ½ teaspoon cinnamon, ¼ teaspoon allspice, ¼ teaspoon cloves, ¼ teaspoon nutmeg with dry ingredients.

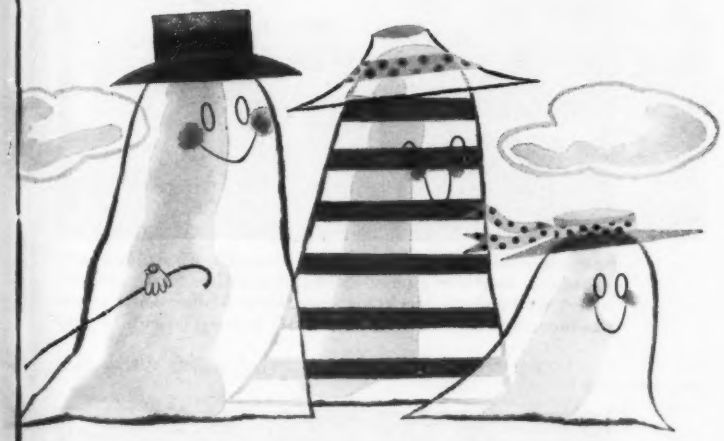
Chocolate Polka-dot Cake: Add ¼ cup grated unsweetened chocolate to batter just before pouring into pan.

Cocoa Cream Topper: Stir 3 tablespoons sugar and 2 tablespoons cocoa into ½ cup heavy cream. Chill 1 hour; beat stiff.

Apricot Whip: Combine 1 egg white, dash grated lemon peel, 1 teaspoon lemon juice, and ¼ cup sugar in top of double boiler. Cook over boiling water, beating constantly, till peaks are formed, about 4 minutes. Fold in ½ cup cooked dried apricots, chopped.

Orange Frosting: Thoroughly cream together 2 tablespoons butter and 1 cup sifted confectioners' sugar. Stir in 1 unbeaten egg yolk and ½ teaspoon grated orange peel. Add 1 tablespoon orange juice as frosting becomes thick.

see out-of-this-world new color in January white sales!



Top Department Stores Feature Color ⟶

January white sales are showing their true colors this year, and more heavenly shades you've never seen. These gay spirits come right out of the blue to announce that leading department stores across the nation are putting the accent on color. Shop your local store for products advertised in Better Homes & Gardens. The brands to look for are listed in the advertisers' index, page 144.

Check this list for the department store nearest you featuring color in its January white sale.

ALABAMA
Birmingham
Loveman's

ARIZONA
Phoenix
Dorris-Heyman

ARKANSAS
Little Rock
The Blass Co.

CALIFORNIA
Los Angeles
Barker Bros.
Oakland
Breuner's
Sacramento
Breuner's
San Diego
Grand Dept. Store
San Francisco
City of Paris
Stockton
Breuner's
Vallejo
Levee's Dept. Store

COLORADO
Denver
Daniels & Fisher

FLORIDA
Lakeland
Maas Bros.
St. Petersburg
Maas Bros.
Tampa
Maas Bros.

GEORGIA
Savannah
Levy's Dept. Store

IDAHO
Boise
C. C. Anderson Co.

INDIANA
South Bend
Robertson's

IOWA
Des Moines
Younkers
Dubuque
Roshek Bros. Co.
Sioux City
T. S. Martin Co.

KANSAS
Hutchinson
Wiley's, Inc.
Topeka
Crosby's
Wichita
Hinkel's

KENTUCKY
Lexington
The Purcell Co., Inc.

MICHIGAN
Grand Rapids
Wurzburg's
Lansing
J. W. Knapp Co.
Muskegon
Grossman's
Saginaw
Wm. C. Wiechmann Co.

MINNESOTA
Albert Lea
Skinner-Chamberlain Dept. Store
St. Paul
Schuneman's

MISSOURI
Joplin
Christman's
Kansas City
Emery, Bird, Thayer

NEBRASKA
Grand Island
S. N. Wolbach Sons
Lincoln
Gold's of Nebraska
Omaha
Orchard & Wilhelm

N. HAMPSHIRE
Laconia
Dennis O'Shea, Inc.

NEW JERSEY
Millville
E. J. Fath Co.
Newark
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Paterson
Quackenbush's

NEW MEXICO
Albuquerque
American Furniture Co.

NEW YORK
Albany
John G. Myers Co., Inc.
Buffalo
J. N. Adam Company
Jamestown
Nelson's of Jamestown
Syracuse
Dey Brothers

N. CAROLINA
Greensboro
Belks Dept. Store

OHIO
Springfield
People's Outfitting Company, Inc.
Warren
Griswold's

OKLAHOMA
Muskogee
Durnil's
Tulsa
Brown-Dunkin Co.

OREGON
Portland
Mier & Frank

PENNSYLVANIA
Boyertown
D. B. Boyer & Co.
Erie
Erie Dry Goods Co.
Harrisburg
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Lancaster
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Philadelphia
Strawbridge & Clothier
Pittsburgh
Gimbel's

S. DAKOTA
Sioux Falls
Shriver's, Inc.

TENNESSEE
Bristol
H. P. King Company
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TEXAS
Corpus Christi
Lichtenstein's
El Paso
American Furniture Co.
Ft. Worth
Stripling's
Houston
Foley's
San Antonio
Joskes of Texas

WASHINGTON
Seattle
The Bon Marche

WASH'TON, D.C.
Washington, D.C.
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W. VIRGINIA
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WISCONSIN
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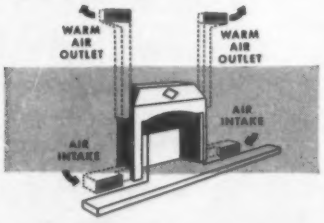

2. Will Not Smoke. Because the Heatilator unit is a scientifically designed steel form, it does away with guess-work and rule-of-thumb construction. Adds little to the cost of the finished fireplace.

3. Damper Seals Air-Tight. The new Pressure-Seal Damper seals air-tight when the fireplace is not in use. In cold weather it prevents costly house heat from escaping up the chimney—stops cold drafts from blowing into the room. In summer it is an absolute "must" to prevent waste of cooled air in air-conditioned homes.

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Here's living on

One bedroom is furnished as study that easily converts to guest sleeping space for two people. Ready-made covers for beds and bolsters are trim and simple to change over. Sliding aluminum windows can be removed for cleaning or for complete ventilation

Spacious room on lower level is most versatile of all. As family room, it's used for games, children's play, or extra sleeping space. Half-bath is nearby on same level. Unlike conventional basement, two sides of room are entirely exposed for natural light

Real basement is a step down from family room and garage level. Area is vast for basement in tri-level house—500 square feet. Family uses level for laundry, storage, and workshop. Eventually, three zones will be partitioned. Lower level has outdoor access

three levels

Begins on page 72

Kitchen is small, but makes important use of space. Cooking units and food preparation area form L-shaped working surfaces. Still, there's space for eating area and closet for cleaning supplies

Parents' bedroom, like other rooms in house, has cross ventilation. Windows are high, for privacy and furniture placement. Spacious room has double wardrobe closets and private bath for parents

How to get plans

Better Homes & Gardens Five Star Home No. 2601 (about which you've just read) is one of a series of one- to four-bedroom homes published each month which make up our Five Star Home Plan Service. This service—through which you can purchase complete plans for the home of your dreams—includes the following points:

★ **Designs by America's foremost architects,** ranging in style from Cape Cod to contemporary, and all planned to give you maximum comfort, convenience, and beauty for your building dollar.

★ **Detailed working drawings,** from which your builder will erect your home, are complete in every way. The cost is *$7.50 per set* (slightly higher in Canada), plus state sales tax, including . . .

★ **Complete specifications** that outline quality of materials and workmanship that will assure sound construction; and . . .

★ **Builder-owner agreement,** a suggested legal contract which will ensure that your home is built as specified.

★ **Cost-finding list of materials.** (List is available at *25 cents* purchased separately from the plans.) With this list, your builder or building-materials dealer can compute in advance the cost of your new home.

These Five Star Home plans may be ordered from the firms you'll find listed beginning on page 109. In many localities, you can order these plans through your building-materials dealer. Or, you can buy them direct from *Better Homes & Gardens*, 1714 Locust Street, Des Moines 3, Iowa.

Marlite areas—Walls, Dusty Pink; chimney, Skyros Marble Pattern; room divider, folding screens and kitchen cabinets, Natural Walnut Wood Pattern; ceiling, divider top, and kitchen wall, White.

You can afford beautiful ideas with Marlite walls!

Imagination and Marlite changed an unused porch into this smart efficiency apartment. And it's typical of the beautiful "idea-interiors" you can create quickly and economically with new Marlite Plank and Block.

This modern paneling is easily applied over old or new walls. The exclusive tongue and groove joint simplifies installation, conceals all fastening. And Marlite's soilproof plastic finish cleans with a damp cloth . . . stays like new for years. You'll never have to worry about cracked, discolored walls or periodic redecorating.

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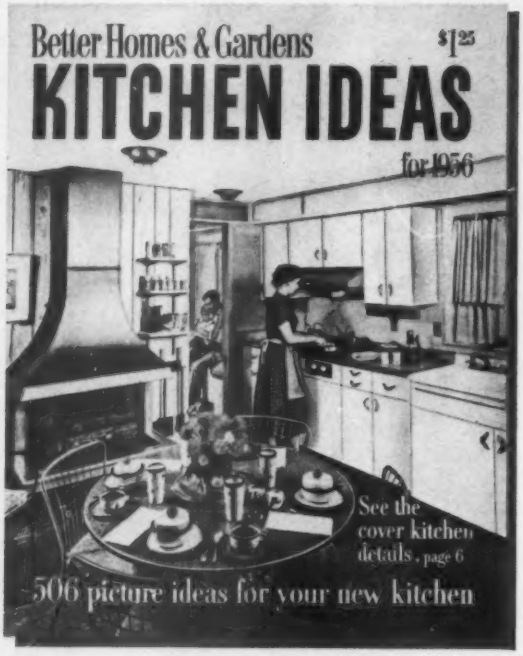

NEW IDEAS BOOK

to give the busiest room in your home **NEW BEAUTY NEW CONVENIENCE**

Picture your own kitchen with all the beauty that decorators have planned for you . . . the convenience that architects can design for you . . . the services new appliances can give you. You'll see them all in the big new Better Homes & Gardens **KITCHEN IDEAS** for 1956.

Here are glamorous ways to use accessories and color, curtains and lighting—even appliances and utensils—to make your kitchen the last word in attractive styling. You'll give your kitchen true family-appeal with the decorating tricks in **KITCHEN IDEAS.**

This brand new Better Homes & Gardens Idea Book shows how to plan an efficient kitchen to save steps for you, how to build in a utility room, a sewing center, or space for laundering. And **KITCHEN IDEAS** shows how you can best take advantage of all the fabulous new appliances.

Whether you're building, remodeling, or decorating your kitchen, you'll find inspiration and real practical help in Hundreds of photographs show you the best of new kitchens—many of them in all their glamorous color.

NOW AT YOUR NEWSSTAND $1.25

or at Home Planning Centers listed on page 109—or write to Better Homes & Gardens, Dept. 5301, Des Moines 3, Iowa.

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you'll discover opportunities for better living when Better Homes & Gardens is on hand with fresh ideas and inspiration. And you'll make the most of those opportunities with the dependable "how-to" advice of Better Homes & Gardens.

Imagination saves this room

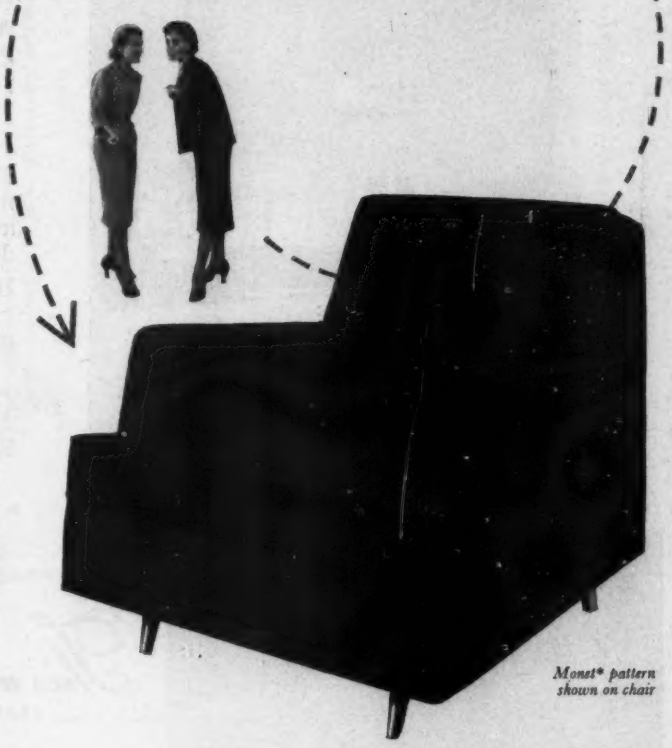
This 12x12½-foot room had no focal point, so they made a center of interest by clever furniture arrangements and decorating. Now room seems larger

Photographs: Howland. Decorator: Claire Kramer

Hanging cabinet is useful, but also breaks up the long, blank wall. With the interesting contemporary painting hanging off to the right it gives the room a center of interest. Sofa placed out in room makes an entry. To save space so sofa could be placed this way, an artist's drawing-board light is mounted on the side wall—no table is needed

Dining table is placed against the wall; can be pulled out when serving larger groups. This room also is a study, and the television set is on wall opposite archway. In living room, note the way the reading light is attached to the bracket of the handyman-made hanging shelves

"You mean this is really TEXTURED PLASTIC—not a woven fabric?"



Monet pattern shown on chair*

Yes, incredible as it may seem, this upholstery is actually practical vinyl plastic. It has the handsome look of the loveliest fabric. It has the luxury 'feel' of the most elegant texturing. It's Masland Duran, in colors and patterns you'd never have thought possible on plastic – plus the convenience of jiffy-quick cleaning, long wear and exceptional scuff-resistance. Don't miss seeing this textured beauty. Look for it on all types of furniture. Write for free folder with sample.
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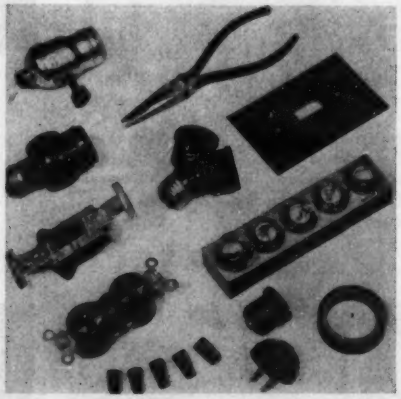
Include these tools and materials in your workshop

Have a "plumber's friend," plumber's snake, chemical drainpipe cleaner, graphite string, and washers ready for plumbing emergency. These tools help keep your plumbing operating efficiently; may save repairs later

Finishing supplies in "bulk" quantities usually cost less and save you time running back and forth to paint store for more. Buy gallon lots of turpentine, linseed oil; have large amounts of glue, sealer, shellac, etc., on hand

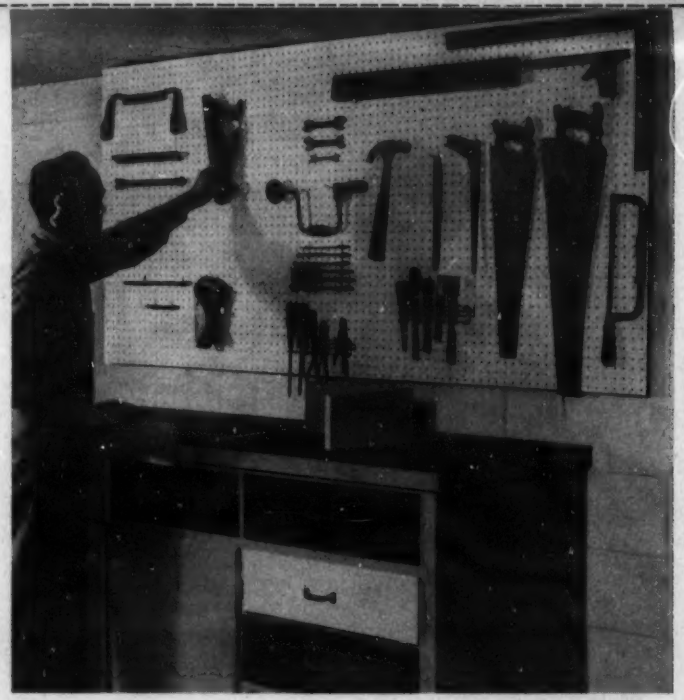
Paintbrushes—like any other tool—last longer and give better performance if they're good ones. Pick four-inch brush for outside work, large surfaces; sash "tool" for windows, trim; also enamel, varnish, and stain brushes



Electrical equipment you need includes extra fuses, switch plates, switches, outlets, solderless connectors for wires, electrical tape, electrician's pliers, etc. By "stockpiling" these materials, you'll have them for any breakdown

Quarter-inch drill—although not classed as a "hand" tool—is important part of any modern-day workshop. Consider it after you buy basic and secondary tools. It does many tasks besides drilling—even polishes shoes

Cut along dotted lines



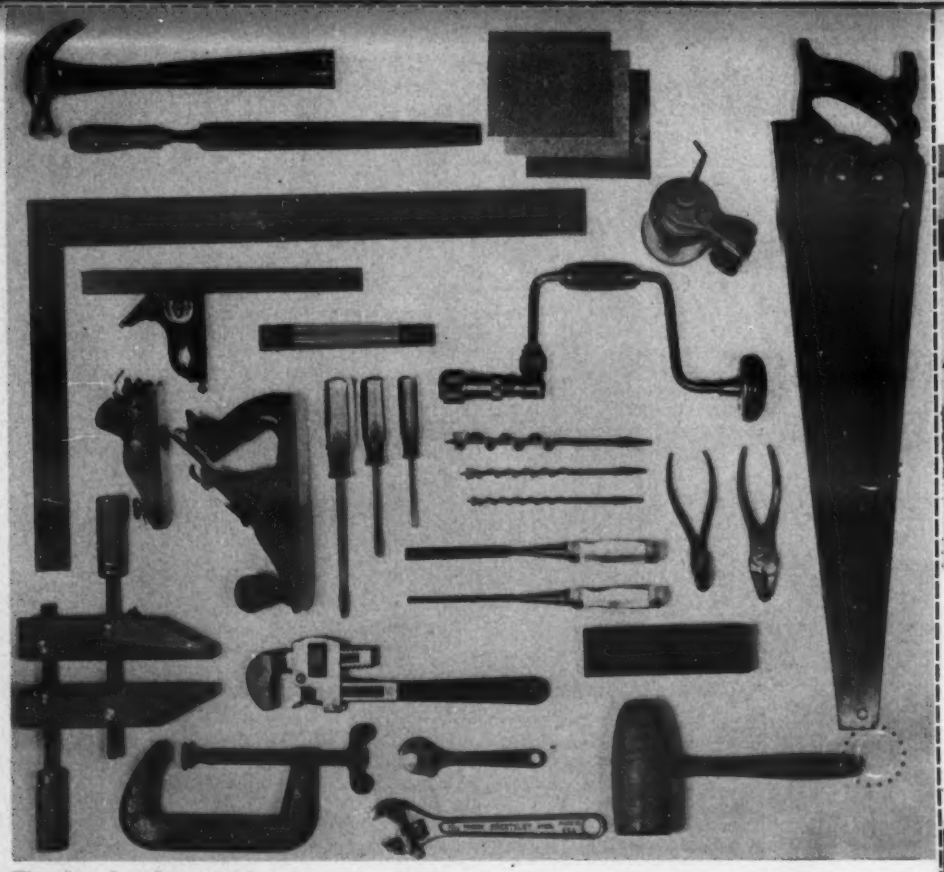
Allow for expansion—the day you will add more hand and power tools to your setup. Also consider sturdy workbench and vise, ample storage space for tools and materials. Lighting, ventilation, and decoration are important, too

Check list for handymen

A GOOD WORKSHOP takes careful planning to make it the convenient, smooth-running work center you deserve. Consider the ideas on these pages—along with the basic tools and materials—before you organize your first shop or remodel your present one. You'll find that they will help you save money and make your everyday home-maintenance jobs and woodworking projects easier and much more fun to do

Add these pages to your HANDYMAN'S BOOK

File under Hand tools

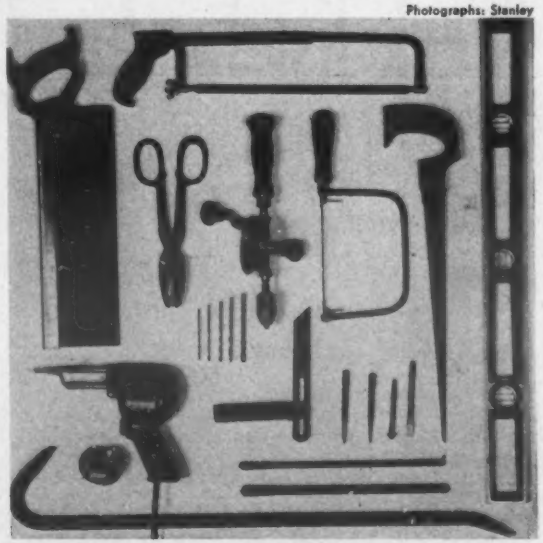


First hand tools to consider include this equipment.

Tools are (from top down) a hammer; a file; sandpaper; a square; an oilcan; 8-point saw; a combination square; a rule; a hand brace; a block plane; smoothing plane, and three sizes of screwdrivers.

Auger bits; side cutters; pliers; hand screws; a pipe wrench; chisels oilstone; C-clamps; adjustable wrenches, and a wooden mallet.

Photographs: Stanley

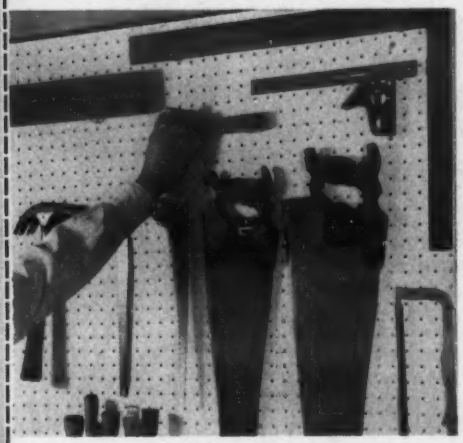


The "secondary" tools are handy as you progress:

Hacksaw; backsaw for miter box you can buy or make; tin snips; hand drill; coping saw; keyhole saw; level, and soldering gun, iron, or torch.

Bevel gauge; center punch; nail set; countersink; screwdriver bit for brace; solder; star drills, wrecking bar.

Arrange tool board so equipment is easy to find and put away

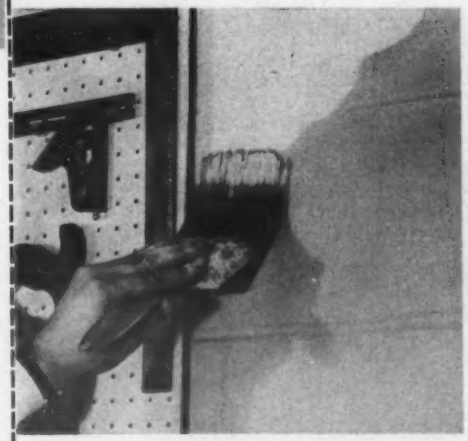


Zone tools so they're in direct relationship to each other.

If tools are easy to put away, you'll put them away instead of letting them lie around where they will become dulled quickly. Corner of tool board is good spot for squares; keep pliers, chisels, etc. together.

Store screws and nails in drawers or on separate shelf where they'll be easy to find. Empty coffee cans are excellent for nail storage.

Keep screws in boxes they come in. The labels provide easy identification — boxes are easy to carry right to the job, or pack in portable tool chest.



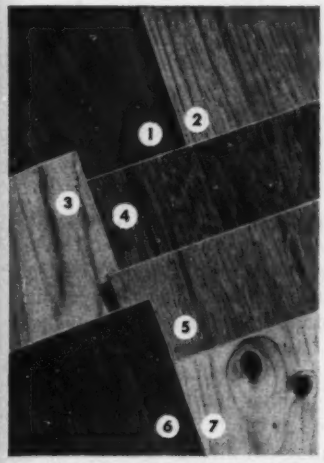
Decoration adds safety to any workshop. Paint the walls and ceiling a light color to discourage homesteading spiders and bugs and to increase reflection from the lighting arrangement which should be well planned.

Locate light above vise; others should brighten entire shop.

Workbench kits you can buy resemble a king-size erector set. Steel frame is made in various gauges of steel; top is extra-thick plywood.

You can add shelf below for your supplies and equipment; box in entire frame with plywood. Hardboard top over plywood adds rigidity.

Plankweld's so easy to put up! 16¼" wide by 8′ high panels fasten to wall with special metal clips that are then *completely concealed* by overlapping of the panels. *No* worry about joints—*no* nail holes to fill.



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MEN:

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Now's the

Pacific Northwest Make a note of those evergreens in your neighborhood that look best during the winter, and that you might be able to plant in your own garden next spring. . . . Add to the list early-flowering plants that start blooming this month—Oriental witch-hazels, fragrant viburnum, and Korean azaleas. . . . Start pruning deciduous trees and shrubs during milder days. . . . Set out woody plants—except magnolias and dogwood—during a winter thaw to save planting time in the spring. . . . Spray trees and shrubs infested with scale on those days when the temperature rises to 45 degrees or above. . . . Save fireplace ashes for feeding lilacs, iris, and other alkaline-soil plants.

Central and East Brace tall evergreens against heavy snow and ice by tying central stem to stakes. . . . Burn elm prunings to destroy elm bark beetles that may be present. These are the spreaders of Dutch elm disease. . . . Use wire netting and bricks to anchor mulches in wind-swept borders. . . . Cut back lateral branches on blackberries and raspberries to 6 or 8 buds each. Also remove and burn deadwood if this has not been done earlier. . . . Thumb through new garden catalogs which begin arriving this month. Start mapping out this year's flower beds, and get your order in early. . . . Repaint outdoor furniture that needs freshening up. . . . Check your garden tools and repair those that need it. . . . Have your pruning saw sharpened, so you'll be ready for spring pruning.

California Give priority to the planting of trees and shrubs while they can be bought as bare-root stock at lower cost. They'll grow as well as balled stock planted later. . . . Provide sun and wind protection for newly planted trees. Avocados are especially susceptible to injury from dry wind. . . . Prune fruit trees and summer-flowering shrubs as soon as convenient. . . . Begin planting new roses in the warmer valleys. . . . In lower California, sow seeds of

For all areas—jobs to remember . . .

Plot vegetable garden to scale before ordering new seed. Place the tallest plants at north end

Check root growth on bulbs you are forcing. Move pots to sunny place when roots cover soil ball

time to...

scabiosa, browallias, dimorphotheca, and other annuals. . . . Spade or plow the vegetable plot, and set out perennial vegetables such as rhubarb, artichoke, and asparagus. . . . Plant strawberries as soon as available. Figure on about 25 plants for each member of your family.

South and Southeast Plant oaks and coniferous trees and new boxwood edgings. . . . Spray pecan trees with a 1 to 10 solution of lime-sulfur. Choose a sunny, windless day when the temperature is above 50 degrees. . . . Store poinsettias in a cool spot when they drop their leaves, until you can plant them in the garden. . . . In Lower and Mid-South, start planting dormant roses when the weather permits; in Lower South, prune your established roses. . . . Feed camellias with an acid-type plant food. . . . Make cuttings of begonias, geraniums, and coleus so you'll have plants for potting and bedding outside this spring. . . . If you prune early-flowering azaleas to improve shape, bring branches inside and force into bloom in water. . . . Order a budded Chinese holly for planting in your foundation border where you need a spot of color.

Texas and Southwest Ensure spring garden color each year by planting a few flowering trees. Redbuds, dogwoods, albizzia, and goldenrain-tree are first rate. . . . Start pruning shrubs that bloom late in the spring or summer, such as rose-of-sharon, crapemyrtles, hydrangeas. Cut crapemyrtle stems back to pencil thickness. . . . Protect lawn and perennials from winter drought by occasional watering. . . . Choose muscadine grapes for arbor planting. Use one male plant for each five bearing ones. . . . Delay pruning roses in high plains areas, other sections where winters are more severe. Some pruning can be done along the Gulf. . . . Start pruning rose-of-sharon, hydrangeas, later-blooming spireas, and other shrubs that bloom in summer.

and basic improvements to make . . .

Drawings: Ken Gunall

Strengthen weak-crotched trees with long bolt drawn tight. Cut away bark to set washer on wood

Keep bird feeders filled when natural food supplies are low. Good: peanut butter, suet, seed

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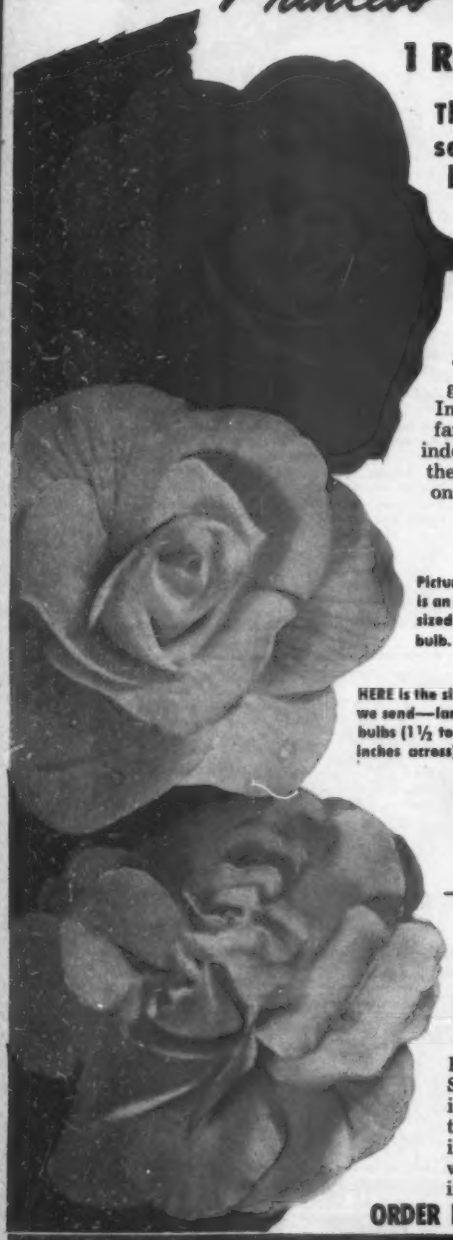

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Helps for home builders

Begins on page 109

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*Offer advice on home planning and financing; do not offer help with decorating or furnishing.

In February—

Beautiful roses

. . . are made easy with a big colorful article in February *Better Homes & Gardens*. Beginner or old-timer, you'll want this helpful information. On Sale January 24th.

Where to get it

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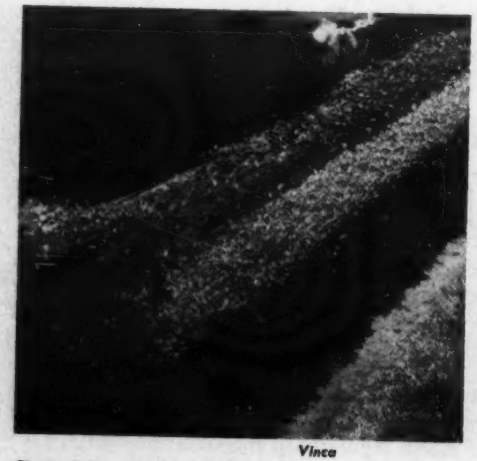
Advice from a hoarse husband

A woman who is vacuuming,
I've learned, can't hear a blessed thing,
Can't hear the doorbell or the phone,
Can't hear a shout, can't hear a moan,
Can't hear a howl, can't hear a yelp,
Can't hear a frantic cry for help. . . .
Don't try to talk, don't try to tell
Her anything, don't try to yell,
Don't shoot a gun close to her ear,
As I have said, she will not hear.
Unless you catch her eye, sir, you
Might just as well wait till she's through.

—*Richard Armour*

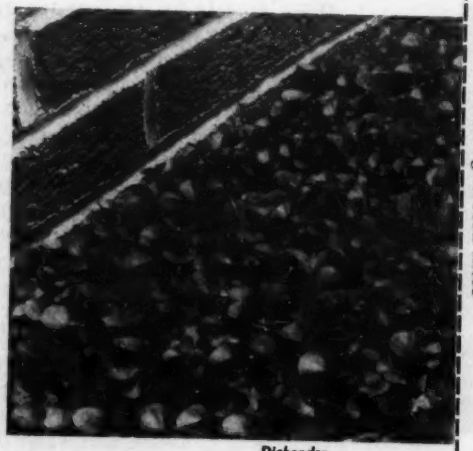


Vinca

Combined with hedge

Groundcover here is used to widen the base of young hedge, to give it more sturdy appearance while it gains size and maturity.

It also solves the problem of what to do with space by walk, allowed for future growth of hedge.



Dichondra

Grass substitutes

This is one of the few groundcovers used for "lawn." Lack of cold resistance limits its use to Deep South and West Coast, where it is used for low-maintenance lawns.

It does well in sun or semishade, is best in light traffic areas.

Honeysuckle

Erosion control

Once established, groundcovers will hold up a bank as well as masonry.

For a severe slope, use the more vigorous vines and combine them with small terraces. In most cases, it is best to use one type of a groundcover rather than a mixture.

Pachysandra

Under low trees

Groundcover solves mowing problem where low tree limbs are needed for screening or other landscape effects.

But there is an extra service, too. The groundcover adds its own special texture and pattern to the important house front and lawn area.

Cut along dotted lines

Photographs: Stanley; Bill Hedrich, Hedrich-Blessing; de Gennaro

Ajuga

New trees do not yet prevent the growth of grass. The groundcover anticipates and solves the shade problem before it arises.

Permanent edging keeps grass and groundcover separated.

Groundcovers—

to solve your problems

Nearly every home has a spot or two where grass doesn't do well, or requires too much effort to grow. It can be on a steep slope, or in an irregular bed that's hard to mow. Use groundcovers to solve problems like these.

What is a groundcover? This term usually means those plants grown to cover the soil, either to improve its appearance or to protect it from erosion. In this sense, grass is the most widely used groundcover.

What are the advantages? Many grow where grass can not. Others have attractive flowers. Some are evergreen. They do not have the ruglike effect of grass. Instead, they have interesting textures with a special value of their own.

PUSH OUT

Add these pages to your GARDEN BOOK

File with Lawns

Lily-of-the-valley

Shade

Here big oak trees have completely starved and shaded out the grass, yet the groundcover is a thick, compact mat of green with flowers in spring.

The area now needs no mowing or raking, except in fall—just extra plant food in early spring.

Fragaria

Under shrubs

Some of the most interesting, useful shrubs are rather sparse at the base—offering an excellent opportunity for use and display of groundcovers.

Here fragaria in bloom shows how attractive shrub-groundcover combinations can be.

Pachysandra

Restricted shade

Area between new shrubs and walk is too narrow for growing flowers.

Groundcover solves the problem by completely covering soil with greenery. Mud no longer splashes on walk or building. Occasional clipping keeps groundcover trim and in bounds.

Vinca

Long narrow strip

The adaptability of groundcovers is almost endless. Here evergreen vinca was chosen to unite house with walk.

Grass or hedge shears make quick work of the trimming—needed about once a month. This gives minimum effort, year-round effectiveness.

Cut along dotted lines

How to plant and grow groundcovers

Most groundcovers are sold in small sizes, after being grown in pots to establish good root systems. Vigorous types may be shipped in bundles, bare root. Allow at least one plant for each square foot.

Planting: Cultivate the soil full depth of spade and mix in peat or compost if available. Rake in two or three pounds of a balanced plant food, such as 6-10-4, for each 100 square feet.

Set plants in staggered rows, so they are equidistant apart. When the soil has been spaded deeply, the planting goes swiftly. A trowel is usually preferred for setting the plants in the earth. Firm the soil about the roots, and then water entire bed liberally.

Care: It will normally take from one to two growing seasons for the plants to merge together. During this time, keep the bed free of weeds, and water the plants regularly to encourage growth.

Feed each spring with a balanced plant food. When the plants have matted together, you can root new cuttings from the older plants for starting groundcovers for additional areas.

Groundcovers to solve special problems

Evergreen

Baltic ivy
Cotoneaster microphylla
Dianthus arenarius
Pachysandra
Sargent juniper
Sedum varieties
Thymus serphyllum
Vinca minor
Waukegan juniper
Wintercreeper

For shade

Baltic ivy
Ferns, many species
Gaultheria procumbens
Honeysuckle (Hall's)
Kenilworth ivy
Lysimachia
Pachysandra
Veronica repens
Vinca minor
Wintercreeper

Flowering

Arenaria species
Dianthus species
Galax
Gypsophila
Linnaea borealis
Lysimachia
Pachysandra
Phlox stolonifera
Veronica pectinata
Vinca minor

For sun

Campanula
Cotoneaster adpressa
Dianthus
Galax
Gypsophila
Honeysuckle
Mazus japonicus
Phlox subulata
Saxifraga
Vinca major

Begins on page 8

pink patch, and water molds caused by pythium. It did not injure any of the major lawn grasses on which it was tested.

Brine shrimp good test subjects

Brine shrimp, the tiny crustaceans sold in pet shops for tropical fish food, look like they will be valuable in future insecticide research.

U.S.D.A. pathologists have discovered that the tiny animals are extremely sensitive to dilute concentrations of insecticides. They show toxic symptoms from as little as one part in a million of such common insecticides as DDT, lindane, and toxaphene.

This gives research workers a valuable new method for detecting traces of insecticides in foods suspected of being contaminated. As new chemicals are developed, their insecticidal value can be checked quickly and cheaply.

Eat hearty—the food's safe

Are insecticides contaminating our food? Each state has procedures for checking residues and taking foods off the market if residues are too high. Both chemical tests and biological tests—such as the brine-shrimp test—are used to determine toxic levels.

California has one of the most rigid control systems covering pesticide residues. In 10 years of investigation, scientists at the University of California made 30,000 separate analyses of suspected foods without turning up a single case where the level might have been harmful.

Their tests were accurate enough to detect as little as one pint of an insecticide in 6,000 carloads of food. Most samples tested between one-tenth to one-hundredth of the permitted residue.

Sugar maples threatened

The U. S. Forestry Service Laboratory at New Haven, Connecticut, is investigating a new disease of sugar maples. And the disease is serious enough to cast doubt on the future of maple syrups.

The fungus is attacking trees all along the New England coast, from Connecticut to Maine. Since the disease spreads through the soil, chances of eradicating the disease are practically nil. Cutting down infected trees does little good.

Maples under a foot in diameter are usually attacked. Watery blisters on the bark open to form long cracks. When punctured, the blisters ooze a reddish-brown fluid. Sap stains in the wood—reddish-brown with orange-green margins—are a sure sign of infection.

New systemic really socks red spiders

The British, who have pioneered in developing systemic insecticides, have developed a new one with great promise. It has a complicated name that sounds like a college yell backwards—O,o diethyl S-B-diethylphosphorthiolate.

Less than two parts in a million in a direct contact spray killed 50 percent of the red spiders on infected plants. Higher doses gave complete kill. Any excess was absorbed by the plants, making them resistant to further infestation.

The chemical is not on the market yet, but may be available within two or three years.

Stark Bro's

1956 Fruit Tree and Landscape Catalog

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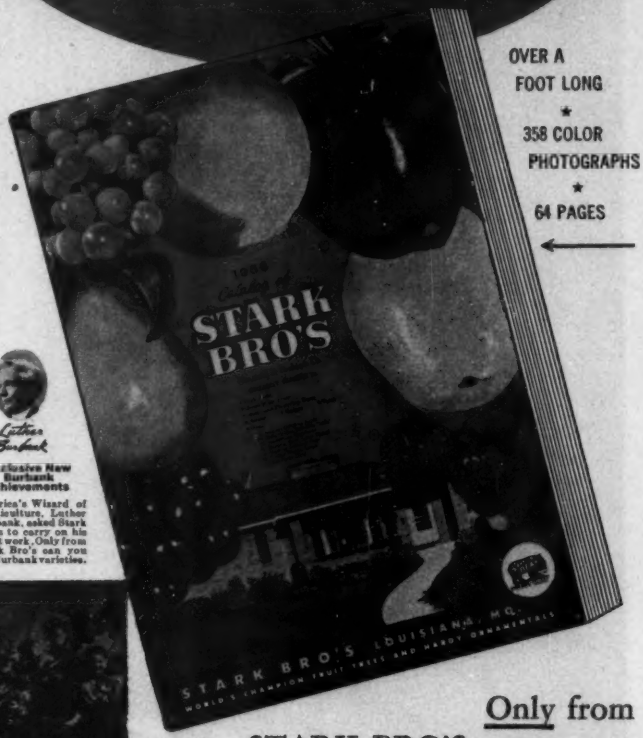

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More super-roads

Trans-America Expressway

Oklahomans are already beginning to call the soon-to-be-finished 2,100-mile route to far-off Maine the "Trans-America Expressway." This route includes the eastern toll roads across Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, New York, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana.

But it also includes the new Route 66 expressway now being pushed from Chicago to Springfield, Missouri.

And coming up to join this overland network, meanwhile, is Oklahoma's own 3-year-old Turner turnpike. Today it links Oklahoma City and Tulsa, to the east. But in '56 it will be pushed still farther east to Joplin, Missouri. Then there will remain only an 88-mile gap of older roads needed to join up the Route 66 freeway. This gap may not be closed for several years.

What all the shooting's about

But there's been a lot of argument. Are all these super-roads "really necessary?" Are toll roads going to peril our "free" highway system?

And is the United States plan—which you may have heard called a "$101 billion plan"—just a vast luxury that is going to load us with debt? (One critical member of Congress called it a "bonds for boulevards" plan.)

Let's look at the United States plan first. To begin with, it is not a $101 billion plan. It's true that, if it goes through, our streets and roads will cost us $101 billion in the next 10 years.

But that's misleading: In the first place, that $101 billion isn't a federal expense—it's what will be spent by the United States *plus* every state, county, town, and city.

The real truth is this: *We're going to spend half that amount anyway*—just to continue today's haphazard, hand-to-mouth program.

Today, the United States gives your state $50 to match every $50 it spends on our 600,000 miles of federal-aid roads. That's known as the "50-50" federal-aid plan. On interstate "backbone roads" the ratio has been boosted to 60-40.

But now the nation so desperately needs better roads that the United States proposes to give your state a 90-10 bonus. For every $1 that your state spends to convert the vital routes to super-roads Uncle Sam will pay $9.

How will we foot the bill

Now where will Uncle Sam get the money?

There's the rub. There have been 3 suggestions:

1. Raise it all by 30-year bonds.
2. Raise it partly by bonds and partly by higher taxes (on gasoline, diesel fuel, trucks, busses, truck tires); and by higher bridge and tunnel tolls.
3. Skip the bonds and special taxes and raise it by adding to everybody's income tax. The states may have to do this anyhow—and to boost property taxes—to raise their share. This proposal has not been too seriously considered.

But while Congress is trying to decide what to do, here's how you can figure what it's going to cost you—one way or another:

Today you spend 9 cents a mile (average) to own and run a car.

If the United States plan goes through, you'll pay 9¼ cents a mile.

That's the simple arithmetic of it, and it's based on national averages, of course.

But in any event, the engineers say, *you'll save money*. In fact, you'll pocket a dime for every 10 miles you travel on the new roads.

That's because today's stop-slow-go traffic burns up lots of gas, wears out tires, brakes, and is hard on your engine and transmission.

In Los Angeles awhile back the Automobile Club of Southern California tried an experiment. One day its engineers ran a 133-mile test trip over Los Angeles' great system of freeways. Next day they made the same trip—but on nearby city streets. *By freeway*, the trip took three hours. *On city streets*, it took more than six hours. By freeway, the test car didn't have to make a single stop. But on the city streets it made 298 stops! And the cost? By city streets: 8 cents a mile. By freeway: 4 cents a mile. That's how modern roads save money. Detroit engineers say it costs you 3.3 cents every time you stop at a traffic light. In open country the cost is less—but still runs around 1 cent a mile. If you drive 10,000 miles a year, that's $100.

Twice as many cars coming

But is all this worth higher taxes, or a debt of billions to be paid by our children—so long as we can still struggle along on today's streets and roads?

The engineers' answer is this:

"If we *don't* build these roads our children will be swamped, not only in traffic but in debt. They'll have to build them anyway—for there will be twice as many cars in the next 10 years alone. And in the meantime our children will have lost many more billions than we'll spend—through business strangulation, accident costs, insurance, and wear and tear. Today's incredible death toll and the accident toll (1 injury in every 100 families every year) will skyrocket.

"Furthermore, if we DO build the roads, we'll be saving *ourselves* money. For California has found that its freeways are paying for themselves, through savings to motorists, *in just three years!*"

Pro and con of tolls

Now what about those toll roads? Are they good or bad?

coming

Begins on page 68

Years ago, the United States was plagued by toll roads, toll bridges, toll canals, toll ferries. Gradually we shook free of them. Today the toll roads are booming again—and a lot of people, especially motel, restaurant, and gas-station owners are frantic. They're being bypassed.

But what about the driver—you?

The American Automobile Association, speaking for 5,000,000 drivers, is firmly pledged to the idea that all roads should be free. But on the other hand, the A.A.A. admits it hasn't heard many complaints from drivers.

"People are so glad to get free of today's shabby death-trap roads that they haven't been complaining about tolls," one official said.

"People who don't use the toll roads find that older roads nearby now aren't jammed for the first time in years. Some roads like New York's cross-state Route 20, once snarled with traffic, are now a pleasure to drive: the heavy through traffic has gone over to the New York Thruway."

But it's from the merchants and innkeepers along these older roads that the angriest attacks are coming. Toll roads, they claim, are unfair double-taxation. You not only pay a gas tax but you pay tolls often equal to 21 cents a gallon. They say, too, that toll roads are bad economy: For every $1 that goes into the road itself we spend another 75 cents for bond interest and "administration"—special patrols, toll-takers, business offices.

Furthermore, the critics say toll roads depreciate parallel main roads and the latter are allowed to go to pieces. Another criticism: Toll roads dump traffic where there are no facilities to handle it, and create local jams.

It's true that some drivers join the attack too. On a toll road you are a "captive customer." At service areas you have no choice of restaurants: there's no competition. And gas stations, having a monopoly concession, some critics say, can charge you more.

And on top of that the toll roads are so easy to drive that they get monotonous; you bypass historic towns. The scenery is flattened out. You don't follow winding valleys—you zoom right across them.

No "free" roads

But the toll men fire right back. To begin with, they say, some of these things are true of *all* modern expressways, toll or free. And they say it's unfair to compare toll roads with "free" roads because there is really no such thing as a "free road."

"Why, every time you buy a gallon of gas, you're paying toll in the form of a gas tax," they say.

As for the lost business, toll men admit, that admittedly is a grave problem for a lot of people.

"But the question," said one, "is this: Is the problem greater for these roadside merchants than it is for the motorists who now struggle to get safely past endless webs of driveways—on which cars are turning out from lunch stands, gas stations, and stores?"

The toll men claim, too, that their roads free millions of dollars of taxes for use on lesser roads.

"Only one toll road today isn't paying its way," said a spokesman. "That's the new 2-lane toll road through scenic West Virginia. But we didn't expect this one to earn money at first: It's planned as the nucleus of a network we hope soon will connect Cleveland with Florida. Only then will it come into its own."

Topping all the criticism, the enemies of toll roads claim that they are a "last resort."

To this the toll men reply:

"That's quite true. When you can't get the money any other way—you have to build toll roads."

Like them or not, the toll roads are a straw in a rising wind.

"Most of them are carrying far more cars than we thought they ever would," says one engineer. "They're showing that the public is *determined* now to get better roads.

"If Congress okays the United States 'Interstate plan' you'll see a sharp increase in freeways in five years.

"But if it doesn't, you're going to see a lot more toll roads."

What chance, then does the United States plan have of passing?

It's too early to predict, but the road men daily are growing more optimistic. Better roads will be top-order business in Washington this

[*Turn to next page*

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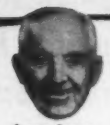

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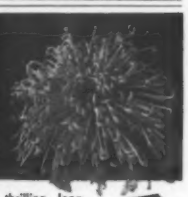

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More super-roads coming

Continued from preceding page

winter. One way or another, the experts say, Congress will work out a businesslike way of investing billions in roads—as an industry invests to improve its ability to make money.

However Congress works it out, General Lucius D. Clay, head of President Eisenhower's highway advisory committee, now says:

"*Make no mistake—those new roads will be built!*"

What the new roads are like

If you haven't used the new long-distance expressways you have a pleasant surprise coming. There are no jams, sharp turns, or blind hills. You never have to stop—in fact, you're forbidden to stop except at "service areas" often many miles apart. (A stopped car on an expressway is as deadly as a log on a railroad track.)

You never meet a car coming your way—for the road ribbon you use is always "one-way." Cars going the other way are far over on the opposite side of a grassy island which may be 15 feet wide in cities and from 30 to 300 feet wide in the country.

There are no cars shooting out of side roads, gas-station or store driveways, no "drunks" speeding out from tavern driveways. For these are "limited access" roads—in effect, they're fenced in like a railroad—and you enter and leave only at special "gates." Near cities these may be 2 and 3 miles apart, but in the country they may be 20 miles apart.

Best of all, you rarely touch your brake or horn, you get no "traffic nerves," and your family is at least *four times safer* than on ordinary roads. (Maine's turnpike today is seven times safer than U. S. 1 nearby). When the Pennsylvania turnpike opened there were bad crashes—mostly rear-enders. People had not learned that you can't chase bumpers on a thruway. At 60, if you're wise, you will cruise a full quarter-mile behind the car ahead. Today, drivers are learning, and the Penn pike is much safer.

If the road is built to the new United States "Interstate" standards each lane is at least 12 feet wide. That means your ribbon is at least 24 feet wide—and it has a paved outside shoulder at least 10 feet wide.

That's 34 feet in all going each way. You find it hard to realize that many main roads still have a total width of 18 feet—and little or no shoulder. *And that's for traffic going both ways!*

Curves on this new road are so wide and sweeping that you scarcely turn your wheel. United States standards call for curves on which you can see at least 900 feet ahead. (On many of today's older curves you can't see 150 feet.)

Hills are so gradual that even trucks move at 50 or 60 mph. You rarely climb more than 3 feet in 100—or what engineers call a 3-percent grade. You scarcely know you're going uphill.

The United States recommends a center island at least 56 feet wide. *Thus your new road is quieter.* There's no *whoosh-whoosh* of cars going the other way.

How fast can you go? Limits are usually 60 and 70 for cars, 50 and 60 for trucks. But one state may go to 75.

At the risk of some day finding themselves out of date, United States engineers who set the standards say roads should be designed for 70 mph. That's as fast, they say, as you can handle a car with safety. Indiana, however, is engineering its new toll road for 80—even though the speed limit will be 65. The Kansas turnpike will have no top limit. But it *will* have a minimum: 40.

What's the toll?

Tolls run from about 1.2 cents a mile to 1.7 cents. On Ohio's turnpike it's $3 for 241 miles or 1.2 cents a mile. On Oklahoma's Turner turnpike you pay $1.40 for the 88 miles from Oklahoma City to Tulsa. The new 157-mile Indiana toll road will charge $1.95 for passenger cars; up to $10.25 for trucks.

"Sh-h-h-h-h. We'll try to get them off now."

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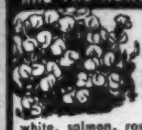

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Russell Gardens
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Your pet and mine

Begins on page 110

We have a Siamese cat, but we are afraid we cannot keep him because he is so destructive with his nails. He has ruined slipcovers, draperies, and chairs. How can we teach him not to scratch and claw?

Recently a safe, humane method has been devised for the surgical removal of the toenails of cats. This new technique is done under anesthesia and does not cause any discomfort, nor does it disfigure the feet. At first many people were skeptical of this operation, but it has proved satisfactory to both the cat and the owner. We have performed it on our own cats and we find that even without toenails on either the front or hind feet, they are still able to climb trees, hunt, and defend themselves almost as well as when they had nails. At first we were surprised at this, but two summers of observation of our cats out-of-doors has proved the worth of this operation.

For several years I have transported my two hunting dogs in the trunk of my car, going to and from the lake where we hunt. My neighbor tells me this is dangerous and dogs have been killed this way. What do you think?

Many people carry dogs in the trunk of the car without harmful results to the dog. Two precautions should be taken; first, to see that the trunk is entirely sealed off from carbon-monoxide gas from the exhaust, and second, that the dogs can receive enough oxygen so as not to impair their breathing. In summer a third precaution should be taken and this is to see that the dogs do not suffer from heat exhaustion. If these precautions are taken, there is no danger in transporting the dogs in the trunk.

My 9-month-old cat is troubled with constipation. Should I give it a laxative?

It is unusual for a young cat to be constipated. A teaspoon of mineral oil, given by mouth, and a weekly feeding of liver will usually relieve an ordinary case of constipation. If the condition does not respond to this treatment you should consult your veterinarian.

We have a 3-year-old cocker to which we try to give good care. However, when we comb him or try to trim his nails, even though we are gentle, he bites us. Why?

Dogs can't be blamed too much for objecting to the pulling of the comb through their coats to remove mats of hair. Although it is not too painful, it is annoying to the dog. It is easy to tie the mouth shut with the use of an ordinary shoestring, tied around the muzzle. This does not hurt the dog.

▶ Have you a problem in pet feeding, care, training, disease prevention? Address your questions to Dr. Wayne H. Riser, "Your Pet and Mine" Editor, *Better Homes & Gardens*, Des Moines 3, Iowa. Enclose a stamped, addressed envelope.

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The diary of a

Plain dirt gardener®

By Harry R. O'Brien

After a leisurely breakfast, Maggie took the trimmings off our Christmas tree and David and I toted it outdoors. Donald is to plant it at his place

Jan. 1 A wonderful day for Georgia or Texas, and temperature nearly as high here as out in sunny California at the big Rose Bowl game.

After a leisurely breakfast, Maggie took the trimmings off our Christmas tree and David and I toted it outdoors. Donald is to take it over to his place and set it out. With his own, it makes a start for the new yard.

Jan. 2 No rest for the wicked—nor the saints either, for that matter. Here I could be taking a winter snooze, but my conscience is pricking again.

For instance, Maggie reminds me that I never did finish gathering up all the leaves from the lawn. And why don't I prune back the bushes which have grown up over the south dining-room window?

I can think of some other things she doesn't know about. The hand tools have never been cleaned up and the glads haven't all been processed for winter, either. Some are still where I left them on the basement floor.

Jan. 4 Carried the forgotten glad corms to basement workbench. Put on my leather garden gloves and began to twist off the old dried mummies and discard them. Tossed out a few corms that looked like they were diseased.

What remained were healthy, well cured and clean. I put them in flats, one layer deep and stored 'em in our basement storage room. I should have treated them, too, with DDT to kill off any possible thrips that had settled down for a comfortable winter. But, at that moment, in walked Donald to talk over a little family business. So DDT-ing was postponed.

Jan. 6 My affairs brought me home for lunch today and found Maggie had taken off to some church doings with eatin' connected therewith. So I took over for myself—one bowl of not-too-crisp cereal flakes and one saucer of prunes. Humble and wholesome!

As I ate and mused, I could plainly see that Maggie's one amaryllis by the window was 15 inches high and two big buds at the top were beginning to unfold just a bit.

As I descended to the basement to get feed for the birds, I saw that the second amaryllis down there had begun to grow, too. So I gave it some extra water.

Jan. 7 Colder today, down below freezing—and maybe this will slow down the numerous queries that have been coming these past few "spring" days.

"My tulip and crocus bulbs are beginning to come up," is the wail. "My roses are beginning to grow. Will the plants be ruined? What can I do about it?"

My answer is that nothing can be done now. Come spring, the bulbs will come on up and bloom and nobody will remember that the tips showed in January.

As to roses, they may be killed back more when spring arrives. This will mean heavier pruning. Rosebushes which die over winter are usually those which were in poor shape in the fall. Or maybe they stand in water in a bed which does not have good drainage.

Jan. 8 After I was garbed in work regalia this Saturday afternoon, I found the ground had thawed too much to be stepped on. So I just fed the birds and carried out some of the debris of civilization.

Thence to the basement workbench where I potted up three gloxinia tubers. First, I found three 5-inch pots. Scrubbed these in hot water to get them cleaned and soaked up. Then I put some pieces of broken pot in the bottom for drainage.

I filled the pots to about an inch below the top with some soil already on hand. (I use a mixture of a third each of soil, sand, and peat or compost.) Settled each tuber in place and filled in more soil so the top was barely covered.

Opinions vary on this. Some say to bury the tuber down an inch. Others say to leave the top exposed. I compromise.

Jan. 9 Being Sunday, Maggie and I babysat with the grandkiddies while Donald and Janet went to church. I caught Maggie trying to teach baby Danny how to walk.

My theory is to just let a baby take its own time and walk when it gets the notion by itself.

Jan. 11 Ground too muddy to walk on. My good wife hinted that by standing on the grass I might reach over and get a start on pruning. What I did, though, was walk back on the grassy paths and take a peek at my rosebushes. As far as I can tell, they're in good shape.

Jan. 15 That one amaryllis had eight blooms on it this morning. Even David stopped to take a look before dashing off. Down in the basement, the other had grown up six inches high, so I carried this upstairs to sunlight.

Jan. 16 "Young man," I made oration to David as he ate his late breakfast this Sunday morning, "you can now go out and earn your room and board for the month. While the ground is frozen, you can spread straw over the strawberry bed. You should have done it weeks ago."

So out went David. He was gone quite a while, before he came back. I went out. No straw on strawberries. What he had done was put aluminum foil around the base of his seedling oak trees to keep the rabbits away.

Jan. 19 Great are the blessings of a home freezer! Ours gave us supper fresh right out of last summer's garden—green bush beans and rhubarb.

That one amaryllis had eight blooms on it this morning. Even David stopped to look before dashing off

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Jan. 20 In late afternoon was to meet Maggie in the lobby of a hotel downtown. Met our whole state nursery association while I waited. They were holding the annual meeting there and you should have seen how my old nurserymen friends greeted me. No wonder, considering how I've been such a good customer of theirs these many years.

One of these nurserymen also handles a line of nursery spades, shovels, and other tools. I gave him an order for two—one a short-handled shovel to handle dirt and sand, the other with a diamond point for digging holes.

"Are you giving these new ones to Donald," says he, "or will you keep the new ones and give him your old ones?"

I don't know the answer yet. But whichever, it will stop Donald lugging my own down to his place. Ever since he has been married, every time I want to dig a hole to set out a rose or a bush, I have to go down to his place and bring my tools back home.

Jan. 22 I was rudely awakened at 4:30 a.m. by Scratch barking frantically, rushing upstairs and back down again.

I jumped up, went downstairs, and opened the front door. Out he dashed and made angry sounds as he raced around the premises. I went back to bed.

But what do you know? When I looked out at breakfast, one of my hanging bird-feeder racks was gone—the one I use for suet. No sign of it anywhere.

(Note: Later on, I found that rack out under some bushes back in the garden. Probably some dog attracted by the suet had pulled it down and lugged it off.)

Jan. 25 Tonight some folks stopped in at our place. We spent the evening looking at slides of new daylily varieties I had made last summer at their home. You know, color pictures like these, in dead of winter, really throttle cold-weather doldrums.

Jan. 31 "What a big flower for such a small pot! I don't see how it can do it," was David's remark at breakfast this zero morning. He was gazing at his mother's second amaryllis now in full bloom. This is a wonder. I measured and it is 29 inches from soil surface in pot to top of blooms. Blooms are 6½ inches across, a gorgeous crimson.

Tonight some folks stopped in at our place. We spent evening looking at colored slides I made last summer

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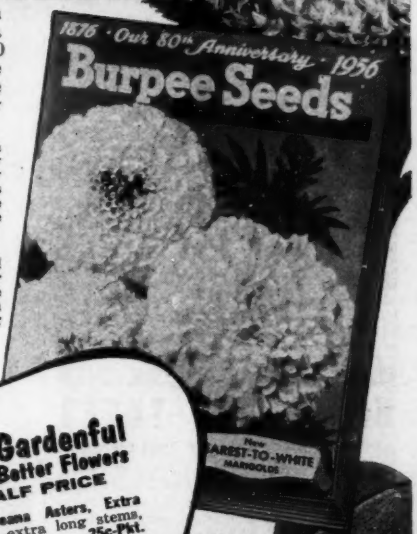

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Holiday hospitality recipes

Continued from page 82

Winter Garden Salad

Colorful array of vegetables for a help-yourself supper—

- 1 medium head cauliflower, cooked whole
- 2 10-ounce packages frozen asparagus, cooked
- 1 pound fresh green beans, cooked, or 2 1-pound cans
- 1 bunch (6 to 8) carrots, cooked
- 1 10-ounce package frozen peas, cooked, or 1 1-pound can
- 1 1-pound can sliced beets
- French dressing (oil-vinegar type)
- Lettuce

Drain cooked and canned vegetables. Place each in separate dish. Pour French dressing over (omit for cauliflower) and chill about 2 hours, turning occasionally. Line large platter or shallow bowl with lettuce. Set cauliflower in center in large lettuce cup and arrange other vegetables around, spoke-fashion. Garnish with onion rings and parsley, if desired. Serve with extra French dressing and mayonnaise. Makes 8 servings.

Stuffed Baked Potatoes

Cut slice from top of freshly baked potatoes or halve large ones lengthwise. Scoop out inside; mash; add a little hot milk, butter, and seasonings to taste. Beat till fluffy; pile lightly into shells. Sprinkle with grated process American cheese and return to oven or put under broiler till hot and cheese melts. Sprinkle with paprika.

Bran Muffins

- 2 tablespoons shortening
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1 egg
- ¾ cup milk
- 1 cup whole bran
- 1 cup sifted enriched flour
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt

Cream shortening and sugar; add egg and beat well. Stir in milk, then bran. Sift together dry ingredients; stir into bran mixture just till moistened. Fill greased muffin pans ⅔ full and bake in hot oven (425°) 20 to 25 minutes. Makes 1 dozen.

Turkey a la King

- ¼ cup diced green pepper
- ¼ cup diced celery
- 2 tablespoons butter or margarine
- 1 tablespoon enriched flour
- 1 can condensed cream of chicken soup
- 2 3-ounce cans (1½ cups) broiled sliced mushrooms
- 1 cup diced cooked turkey
- ¼ cup chopped pimiento
- ¼ teaspoon monosodium glutamate
- Salt and pepper to taste

Cook green pepper and celery in butter until tender. Blend in flour; gradually stir in soup. Add mushrooms and liquid. Cook till thick, stirring constantly. Add remaining ingredients; heat thoroughly. To serve, pour into individual casseroles (or spoon over toast). If desired, top each with toast "tree" sprinkled with chopped parsley. Makes 4 to 5 servings.

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Easy Hollandaise

½ cup butter or margarine
¼ teaspoon salt
Dash cayenne
1 tablespoon lemon juice, fresh, frozen, or canned
2 egg yolks

Beat butter in top of double boiler (*not* over heat or hot water) till creamy. Add salt and cayenne. Add lemon juice a few drops at a time, beating constantly. Add the yolks, one at a time, beating till mixture is light and fluffy. Set over *hot, not boiling*, water a few minutes, or until glossy, stirring constantly. (Water should not touch top pan, and don't let sauce stay over hot water too long.) Serve warm with cooked broccoli or asparagus. Makes about ¾ cup.

Ham-loaf Cups

1 pound ground smoked ham
½ pound ground pork
½ cup milk
2 cups soft bread crumbs
1 beaten egg
1 tablespoon prepared mustard

• • •

¼ cup brown sugar
1 teaspoon prepared mustard

Combine thoroughly meats, milk, crumbs, egg, and 1 tablespoon mustard. Fill six 6-ounce custard cups. Combine brown sugar and remaining mustard; spread over tops. Bake in slow oven (325°) 1 hour. Invert and serve with hot **Cherry Sauce:** Combine 2 tablespoons cornstarch and ½ cup sugar. Add 1 No. 2 can (2½ cups) tart red pitted cherries. Cook and stir over low heat until thick and clear. Makes 6 servings.

Green Beans Almond

2 1-pound cans (4 cups) julienne-style green beans
½ cup slivered blanched almonds
½ cup butter or margarine
½ teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon lemon juice, fresh, frozen, or canned

Heat the beans; drain. Meanwhile cook almonds in butter over low heat till golden, stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and add salt and lemon juice. Pour over hot beans. Makes 8 servings.

Cream Puffs

½ cup butter or margarine
1 cup boiling water
1 cup sifted enriched flour
¼ teaspoon salt
4 eggs

Melt butter in boiling water. Add flour and salt all at once; stir vigorously. Cook, stirring constantly, till mixture forms a ball that doesn't separate. Remove from heat and cool slightly. Add eggs, one at a time, beating vigorously after each addition until smooth. Drop dough by heaping tablespoons 3 inches apart on greased cooky sheet. Bake in very hot oven (450°) 15 minutes, then in slow oven (325°) 25 minutes. Remove from oven; split in half. Turn oven *off* and put cream puffs back in oven to dry out, about 20 minutes. Cool on rack. Fill centers with Custard Filling. Replace tops and drizzle with Fudge Sauce. Makes about 10 big puffs. For **Tiny Cream Puffs** (appetizers): Drop dough from tip of teaspoon about 1½ inches apart on greased cooky sheet. Bake in hot oven (425°) 10 minutes, then in slow oven (325°) 10 minutes. For crisper puffs, turn oven *off;* cut tops from puffs and allow to stay in oven 10 minutes to dry out. Cool on rack. Fill with finely cut turkey, chicken, or crabmeat salad. Makes 5 to 6 dozen tiny puffs.

Custard Filling

¾ cup sugar
3 tablespoons cornstarch
3 tablespoons enriched flour
¾ teaspoon salt
3 cups milk
2 slightly beaten egg yolks
1 cup heavy cream, whipped
2 teaspoons vanilla

Combine sugar, cornstarch, flour, and salt in saucepan. Gradually stir in milk. Bring to boiling over moderate heat, stirring constantly. Cook and stir till thick. Remove from heat. Stir a little of hot mixture into egg yolks. Blend into remaining hot mixture. Return to heat and bring to a boil, stirring constantly. Remove from heat; chill. Beat well with rotary or electric beater. Stir in vanilla. Fold in whipped cream. Fills 10 large Cream Puffs.

Fudge Sauce

½ cup light corn syrup
1 cup sugar
1 cup water
3 1-ounce squares unsweetened chocolate
1 teaspoon vanilla

Combine corn syrup, sugar, and water; bring to boiling. Add chocolate and stir till melted. Simmer over low heat 10 to 15 minutes, or till smooth, stirring occasionally. Add the vanilla. Cool. Makes 1½ cups.

Toasty Rye Curls

Little crisps to dip in garlic butter—

With very sharp knife or slicer, cut "icebox" rye loaf (tiny size) in paper-thin slices. Place in single layer on baking sheet. Dry in slow oven (300°) until crisp and the edges curl, about 30 minutes.

Blue-cheese Snow

Soften two 3-ounce packages of cream cheese. Add ½ cup crumbled blue cheese, ¼ teaspoon garlic salt, and 3 tablespoons top milk or light cream. Blend well. Mound in serving bowl and sprinkle with chopped parsley.

[*Turn to next page*

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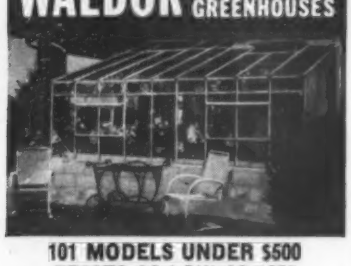

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Holiday hospitality recipes

Continued from preceding page

Caramel Crunch

Popcorn with a chewy, caramel coating. Easy because you start with candies from the store—

½ pound (28) vanilla caramels
2 tablespoons hot water
• • •
2 quarts salted popped corn

Melt caramels with water in top of double boiler over simmering water, stirring frequently till smooth. Pour over popped corn; toss lightly to coat each kernel. Spread on a lightly buttered cooky sheet; let dry. Break in chunks.

Stuffed Mushrooms

These appetite-teasers sport a deviled-ham filling—

1 tablespoon finely chopped onion
1 tablespoon butter or margarine
1 2¼-ounce can deviled ham
¼ cup soft bread crumbs
¼ teaspoon seasoned salt
¼ teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
• • •
1 6-ounce can (1½ cups) mushroom crowns, drained
Melted butter or margarine

Cook onion in 1 tablespoon butter over low heat till tender but not brown. Combine with deviled ham, crumbs, seasoned salt, and Worcestershire. Stuff mushrooms with mixture; brush with melted butter. Broil, stuffed side up, 5 to 8 minutes or till heated through. Keep hot in casserole over candle warmer or in chafing dish.

Sunshine Toddy

Delightful! Spiced just right—

4 cups orange juice
⅛ to ½ cup sugar
6 inches stick cinnamon
2 teaspoons whole cloves
2 teaspoons grated orange peel

Combine all ingredients in saucepan. Bring to boiling, then simmer 5 minutes. Strain. Pour into heated punch bowl or pitcher and float orange slices, if desired. Makes about 8 servings.

Tasting-Test Kitchen note: To serve a hot beverage in a glass punch bowl, first heat bowl with warm water. Pour out water and place large metal spoon in bowl. Then pour beverage slowly onto spoon.

Cranberry Punch

A comforting drink for a blustery night—

¾ cup brown sugar
1 cup water
¾ teaspoon cloves
½ teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon allspice
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
¼ teaspoon salt
4 cups unsweetened pineapple juice
3 cups water
2 1-pound cans jellied cranberry sauce
Red food coloring (optional)
Lemon slices

In saucepan combine brown sugar, 1 cup water, spices, and salt. Bring to boiling. Add pineapple juice and 3 cups water. Crush cranberry sauce with fork; add. Heat to boiling; simmer 5 minutes. Color with red food coloring. Pour into heated punch bowl. Add a few dabs of butter or margarine if desired. Float lemon slices. Serve in mugs with cinnamon sticks as stirrers. Makes about 2½ quarts.

Tomato Cocktail

Perfect with hors d'oeuvres or sandwich snacks—

4 cups tomato juice
2 stalks celery, cut in 2-inch pieces
4 thin slices onion
12 cardamom seeds, crushed, or ½ teaspoon seasoned salt
1 tablespoon lemon juice (optional)

Combine the tomato juice, celery, onion, and cardamom seeds in a saucepan. Cover. Heat to boiling. Simmer 3 minutes. Strain. Add lemon juice and serve hot. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Bacon Bites

Tasty, hot canapes. Rush them from broiler to table—

With 2-inch cooky cutter, cut 20 bread rounds. Toast on one side; brush untoasted side with 2 tablespoons melted butter or margarine. Into 2 stiff-beaten egg whites fold 1 cup grated sharp process American cheese, ⅔ cup finely chopped green pepper, 1 teaspoon chopped parsley, ½ teaspoon salt, dash pepper. Spoon on buttered side of bread rounds. Sprinkle tops with 3 slices bacon, finely diced. Place on broiler pan; broil 4 to 5 inches from heat 10 minutes or until bacon browns and cheese melts. Makes 20 canapes.

Pineapple Wassail

Open canned juices, blend, heat, pour. Delicious!—

4 cups unsweetened pineapple juice
1 12-ounce can (1½ cups) apricot nectar
2 cups cider
1 cup orange juice
6 inches stick cinnamon, broken
1 teaspoon whole cloves
4 cardamom seeds, crushed

Combine ingredients. Heat to boiling; simmer 15 to 20 minutes. Serve hot. Makes 2 quarts.

Sugar-ball Cookies

Rich tidbits glistening with green and red sugar—

½ cup soft butter or margarine
⅓ cup sifted confectioners' sugar
1 tablespoon water
1 teaspoon vanilla
1¼ cups sifted enriched flour
Dash salt
½ cup chopped California walnuts
• • •
Red and green sugar

Cream butter and sugar thoroughly. Stir in water and vanilla. Add flour and salt. Mix well. Stir in nuts. Shape in 1-inch balls. Roll in colored (or plain) sugar. Place 1 inch apart on ungreased baking sheet. Bake in slow oven (300°)

about 20 minutes, or till cookies are set but not brown. Cool slightly before removing from pan. Makes about 2 dozen.

Ribbon Sandwiches

Ours are three-deckers—white bread, top and bottom—whole-wheat in the middle. One filling is deviled ham, the other, softened cream cheese with chopped stuffed green olives.

Hot Spiced Tea

Cloves and cinnamon, plus the tang of orange and lemon. M-m-m!—

1 teaspoon whole cloves
1 inch stick cinnamon
6 cups water
2½ tablespoons black tea
¾ cup orange juice
2 tablespoons lemon juice
½ cup sugar

Add spices to water and bring to boiling. Add tea; steep 5 minutes. Strain. Meanwhile heat fruit juices and sugar just to boiling, stirring to dissolve sugar; add to hot tea. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Eggnog

"For he's a jolly good fellow," Dad's guests will sing—

⅓ cup sugar
2 egg yolks
¼ teaspoon salt
4 cups milk, scalded
1 teaspoon vanilla or 2 tablespoons cooking sherry
2 egg whites
3 tablespoons sugar

Beat ⅓ cup sugar into egg yolks. Add salt and slowly stir in milk. Cook in double boiler over *hot, not boiling,* water till mixture coats spoon, stirring constantly. Cool. Add vanilla. Beat egg whites till foamy. Gradually add remaining sugar, beating till soft peaks form. Add the meringue to custard and mix thoroughly. Chill 3 to 4 hours. Pour into punch bowl. Dot with "islands" of sweetened whipped cream and sprinkle with grated nutmeg. Makes 6 to 8 servings.

Holiday Cheese Cake

Did Santa bring you a box of candied fruits? Use a few to doll up a luscious cheese cake—

1½ cups fine graham-cracker crumbs (18 graham crackers)
⅓ cup sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
½ cup butter or margarine, melted

• • •

2 tablespoons (2 envelopes) unflavored gelatin
¼ cup cold water
2 slightly beaten egg yolks
½ cup milk
1 cup sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
2 cups small-curd, cream-style cottage cheese
½ cup lemon juice
2 teaspoons vanilla
1 cup heavy cream, whipped
2 stiff-beaten egg whites

Combine graham-cracker crumbs. ⅓ cup sugar, and cinnamon. Blend in butter. Press ½ of crumb mixture onto bottom of 9-inch springform pan, reserving rest of mixture for topping. Soften gelatin in cold water. In double boiler, combine yolks, milk, 1 cup sugar, and salt. Cook over *hot, not boiling,* water, stirring constantly till mixture coats metal spoon. Remove from heat; dissolve softened gelatin in hot mixture; add lemon peel. Cool; beat well. Mix cheese, lemon juice, and vanilla; add to gelatin mixture. Fold in cream, then egg whites. Pour into the crumb-lined pan. Sprinkle top with reserved crumbs. Chill overnight. Garnish with candied fruits. Makes 12 servings.

Eggnog Parfait Tarts

Yummy! Ice cream speeds the filling—

1 package lemon-flavored gelatin
1 cup hot water
1 pint vanilla ice cream
¼ teaspoon nutmeg
¾ teaspoon rum flavoring
2 well-beaten egg yolks
2 stiff-beaten egg whites
4 to 6 baked pastry tart shells

Dissolve gelatin in hot water. Cut ice cream in 6 chunks; add to gelatin and stir till melted. Chill until partially set. Add nutmeg and flavoring. Stir in egg yolks; fold in egg whites. Pour into tart shells; chill till set. Top with whipped cream and a sprinkle of nutmeg, if desired.

Peppermint Pie with Chocolate Shell

Pretty party fare. The "crust" is like candy!—

1 package strawberry-flavored gelatin
1 cup hot water
2 cups heavy cream, whipped
1 cup crushed peppermint-stick candy

• • •

1 9-inch Chocolate Shell

Dissolve gelatin in hot water; chill till partially set. Fold whipped cream and ½ cup of the candy into gelatin mixture. Spoon into Chocolate Shell. Chill till set, about 4 hours. Just before serving, sprinkle top with remaining candy. **Chocolate Shell:** Line a 9-inch pieplate with a 12-inch square of aluminum foil, pressing over bottom, sides, and rim. Remove foil and place on ungreased baking sheet. Put one 6-ounce package (1 cup) semisweet chocolate pieces and 2 tablespoons shortening in the foil pan and heat in moderate oven (350°) about 5 minutes. Remove from oven and replace foil in pieplate. Gently blend chocolate and shortening; spread over *bottom* of foil. Chill 8 to 10 minutes, or until chocolate is of spreading consistency. With back of spoon, swirl chocolate evenly over sides, forming a scalloped edge around rim. Chill about ½ hour. Remove from plate and carefully tear off foil. Return shell to pieplate; keep chilled.

[*Turn to next page*

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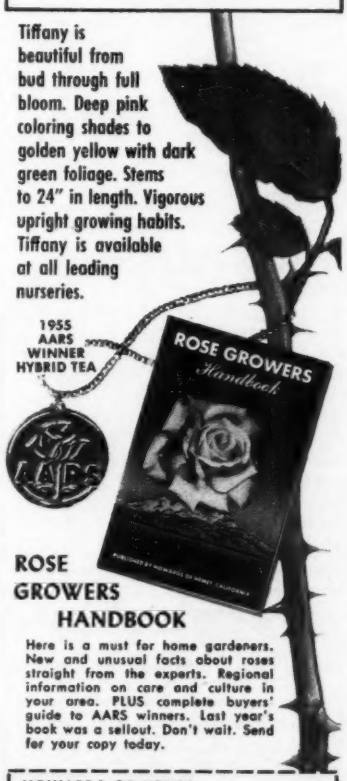

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Holiday hospitality recipes

Continued from preceding page

Giant Sugar Cookies

½ cup shortening
¾ cup sugar
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 egg
2 cups sifted enriched flour
½ teaspoon baking powder
½ teaspoon soda
¼ teaspoon salt
2 to 3 tablespoons milk

Thoroughly cream shortening, sugar, and vanilla. Add egg and beat until mixture is light and fluffy. Sift together dry ingredients; add to creamed mixture alternately with milk, blending well. Divide dough in half. Chill 1 hour. (While rolling one half, keep other chilled till you're ready to roll it.) On lightly floured surface, roll a little more than ⅛ inch thick. Cut with 3-inch round cutter (or make larger pattern and cut around). Sprinkle tops with sugar. Bake on ungreased cooky sheet in moderate oven (375°) 10 to 12 minutes. Cool slightly and remove from pan. When cool, decorate edges with frill of confectioners'-sugar icing. Spell out guests' names with red cinnamon candies, attaching with dot of icing. Makes about 1½ dozen.

Popcorn Crackers

Instead of "bang," these good-to-eat favors go "crunch"!—

5 quarts popped corn
2 cups sugar
½ cup light corn syrup
1½ cups water
1 teaspoon vinegar
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ teaspoon salt

Keep popped corn hot and crisp in slow oven (300 to 325°). Combine remaining ingredients and cook to hard-ball stage (250°). Pour hot syrup over popped corn, mixing well. Form in 2-inch balls (use fat on hands if necessary). To make cracker favors, wrap 3 balls (in a row) in cellophane and tie ends with ribbon. Makes 10 cracker favors.

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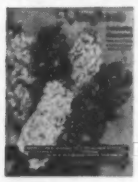

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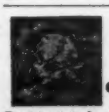

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Your child has financial problems

Begins on page 90

present the whole problem to him straightforwardly.

At the young age of 11, Bobby doesn't need to know all the hard facts of his parents' economic life. But a frank talk, explaining that "Dad's work doesn't bring him as much money as Mr. Jones' work does," and that his allowance is "fair and generous considering the family income," should help overcome the child's natural competitive jealousies. And, should win respect and sympathy for his parents' efforts.

Allowance stretching

Since so many adults complain that they cannot make a budget work, we must understand that Junior's allowance won't always stretch between "paydays."

For the 5-year-old with his first spending money, "being paid" every day is almost mandatory. It is too much to expect the kindergartener to anticipate his needs and wishes five days or two weeks hence.

While he should be encouraged to drop extra pennies into a bank for a "rainy day," the first allowance should allow the youngster to satisfy regular, daily needs—the lunchtime milk, the bar of candy, the ice-cream cone, and so on.

At this age, some "gimmes" will inevitably come from Father's spare pocket—the new issue of Davy Crockett comics, the special movie, or whatever.

In time, however, the period between allowances should become increasingly longer. By the age of 10, a weekly payday should be routine.

Program for spending

No parent ever will be completely satisfied by the way children spend allowances.

As adults, most of us have a program for spending. Mostly, we satisfy basic needs for food, shelter, and clothing. Partly, we buy luxuries we could do without in a pinch. And, partly, we build security by saving what we can. All three uses for money, in proper proportions, should be encouraged in our youngsters.

Too often, guidance given children in these matters reflects unreasonable attitudes of parents. The penny-pinching, insecure father is angry when his "spendthrift" son has no savings at the end of the week. The spendthrift mother makes no attempt to provide a realistic basis for her daughter's expenditures.

In such lack of guidance lie the seeds of tomorrow's "money neurotics." A balanced budget reflects a balanced budgeting of emotional attitudes toward money.

In a world rife with materialistic values, parents have an obligation to help their children to goals and values more important than those marked exclusively with dollar signs.

Many mothers feel they are doing their daughters a favor by indoctrinating them with the wish to "marry a rich man" and thereby "get everything you'd ever want."

Such guidance could well be supplanted by some practical training for the young miss who, chances are, will one day settle for a man with something less than a bank among his holdings.

Mrs. Harris was faced with the problem of a 15-year-old daughter for whom money meant only something to be spent—as quickly and as thoughtlessly as her wants demanded. Ruth had never learned that an allowance was meant to provide a variety of necessities as well as luxuries. She was either unwilling or unable to put into practice even the simplest notions of budgeting. For Ruth, it was tears and tantrums when she was denied that extra spring dress or the third movie in a week.

This was a girl, in short, who needed to learn some responsibility before too many years had passed. To accomplish this, Mrs. Harris took a dramatic step.

Ruth's mother decided that it was high time her daughter had her monetary come-uppance. Soon after summer vacation began, she announced to Ruth that for the following month the daughter was to be responsible for budgeting the family's expenditures.

For this period, Ruth was to do all the purchasing of food and to decide which needs of her brothers (ages 7 and 11) had to be met immediately and which could be set aside. Her responsibilities included a survey of outstanding bills, a hard look at the checking account, and decisions as to which bills could and could not be paid.

This youngster, in other words, was to change her role and assume for a month's time the place of her mother in the management of the family's economic affairs. Naturally, Mrs. Harris was willing to be consulted whenever her daughter felt in need of advice. Otherwise, the girl was completely on her own.

As a matter of fact, there was no mixup. Faced with the responsibility of running a household, Ruth was overcautious, virtually miserly about her financial affairs.

But no one complained, and in recognition of her efforts, Mrs. Harris bought Ruth a new summer outfit. Most important, Ruth for the first time had sympathy for the role heads of households play in money management. Financially, she had come of age.

Young men have frequently said to me, in contemplating marriage, "I'd marry her tomorrow if I could be sure that money wouldn't ruin our lives." With few exceptions, conversations with these potential husbands reveal that their fears of money were learned in their early years from parents whose lives were beset with unsolved dollar problems.

The simple truth is that money can act as a force for great happiness and productivity or as the root of more than a dozen evils. The direction this force takes for our children can be influenced by the guidance and inspiration we are prepared to give them.

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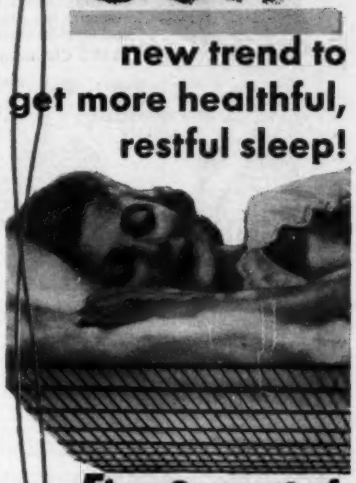

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EMLONG'S Box 36 Stevensville, Mich.

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of this Paper to have my big red EARLIANA TOMATO

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R. H. SHUMWAY SEEDSMAN, Dept. 314, Rockford, Ill.

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Your name and address (choice of 3 lines) on 1000 fine quality gummed labels, WITH PLASTIC BOX, only $1 postpaid. Any six orders for $5. THIS IS A SPECIAL OFFER. Use on stationery, checks, books, greeting cards, records, etc. *Satisfaction guaranteed.* Handy Labels, 108 Jefferson Bldg., Culver City 1, Calif.

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Ackerman Nursery, 194 Lake St., Bridgman, Mich.

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Make Leather Purses, Belts, Billfolds

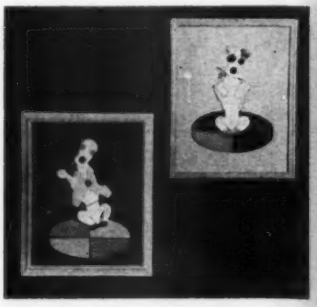
J. C. LARSON CO., 820 So. Tripp Department 5538, Chicago 24, Illinois

Shopping by Mail

with Better Homes & Gardens

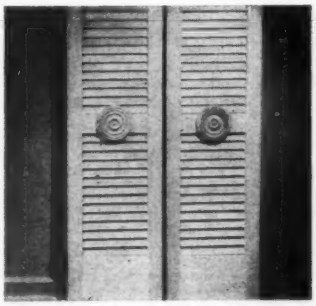
A hearty wedge of Swiss is ceramic nesting place for three cheese knives, each with a handle that's ceramically cheeselike. For night-owl nibblers or festive party displays; $5, ppd.

Order from Carole Stupell, 507 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y.



Color-splashed felt pictures are juvenile pin-ups, framed in natural wood, measuring 7x9 inches. Cocker Spaniel (left) and Terrier are $1.75 each, two for $3, ppd. Boston Bull, poodle, also available.

Willow Knoll Crafts, Box 311, Nyack, N.Y.



Handsome shutter doors copy those found in the great mansions of old New Orleans. You paint them yourself, use them for an opening 2'6"x6'8"; $31, express charges collect.

Louvercraft, 425 Austin Place, New York 55, N.Y.

Isn't this a dainty dish to set before the kin? Baby's photo is reproduced on a ceramic plate, in either of the styles pictured. Black and white, $4.95; tinted, $5.95, ppd. Send snapshot or negative.

Ceraphotos by Bridges, Box 244, Westminster, Md.

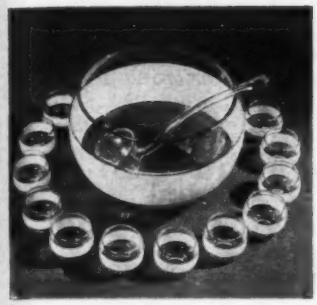
A Delft dazzler, lamp stands eight inches high; silk shade measures six inches across. Both are hand-painted by Dutch artists, delivered to you direct from Holland. $2.50, ppd.

The Globeshoppers, Inc., 4704 California Ave., Seattle 16, Wash.

Booklet trio corrals your notes for "Engagements," "Addresses," and "Shopping." Each is covered with colorful Italian paper in a lively print, as is the matching holder; $4.25, ppd.

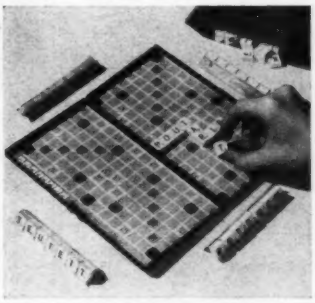
Bonwit Teller, 721 Fifth Ave., New York 22, N.Y.

Take a tour of the nation's most exciting and unusual shops. Here are the items they have selected to bring you enjoyment this month



Festive punch set includes a king-size bowl, plus glass ladle and twelve glasses. Bowl and cups are crystal clear, rimmed in gold, and have a cloudy band encircling the lower portion; $19.95, ppd.

Camalier & Buckley, 1141 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C.



A scrabble-happy commuter will get a bang out of his own pocket-size set, complete with magnetic tiles that resist the subway's rock and roll. Set folds to a compact 8x4 inches. $7.95, ppd.

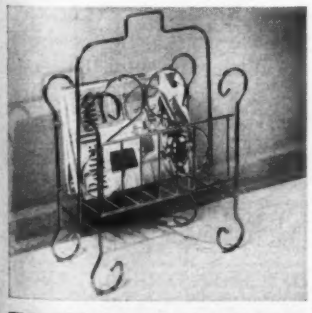
Holiday House, Bellevue Theatre Bldg., Upper Montclair, N. J.

A sentimental gentleman might gift his lady with this. Musical key chain plays "I Love You Truly"; "White Christmas"; and "The Anniversary Song"; $12, ppd., plus 75c for 3 initials.

B. Gately, 335 E. 31st St., New York 16, N.Y.

Stamp collection salutes the gals. Each stamp features a postal picture of a famous woman. Collection includes over one hundred different genuine postage stamps, from faraway lands; $1, ppd.

H. E. Harris & Co., 1358 Transit Bldg., Boston 17, Mass.



This "Modern Antique" magazine rack takes a cue from a Victorian original, in nontarnish brassed metal. It's an ornate eye-catcher that will add elegance to any room setting; $9.98, ppd.

Maurice Duchin Creations, Inc., 230 Fifth Ave., New York 1, N.Y.

Nickle-plated thread snipper can be used for ripping, as well as snipping. It's a timesaver both ways, and a handy addition to your sewing box. Many professionals use this item. $3, ppd.

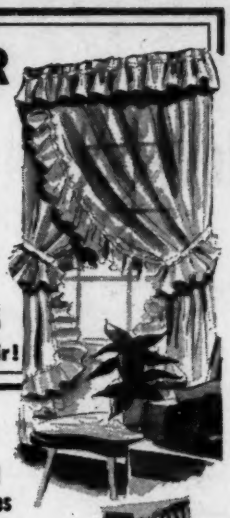
Hoffritz for Cutlery, 49 E. 34th St., New York 16, N.Y.

SAVE $2 to $13 PER PAIR on these lovely

NO-IRON Fiberglas

CURTAINS and DRAPES

..without ever getting out of your easy chair!



It's Like Having a Curtain and Drapery Store Right in Your Own Home!

Yes, you save up to $13 per pair on miracle-fabric, no-iron Fiberglas curtains and drapes by ordering direct from Ronnie. These amazing curtains and drapes never need starching or stretching. In fact, you can actually WASH AND HANG THEM IN ONLY 7 MINUTES! And they keep their beauty longer than old-fashioned curtains and drapes because modern Fiberglas fabrics can't shrink, fade, sag—are rot and mildew-proof, fireproof, heat-proof and sun-resistant! You get your choice of 46 sizes to fit any window and in colors to fit any decorative plan. Our huge buying power and direct-to-you selling policy saves you up to 37% per pair. Every pair is backed by our 5 YEAR GUARANTEE!

SEND NO MONEY! Write for Free Samples and Low Direct-to-You Price List

Examine our wide selection of curtains and drapes in the leisure of your own home! Just mail the coupon below and we'll rush you 24 Fiberglas curtain and drapery color samples and the Ronnie Catalog—*absolutely free*—to help you select the curtains and drapes you want. There is no obligation whatsoever. So mail coupon *now!*

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Monroe FOLDING BANQUET TABLES

Factory prices and discounts to churches, schools, clubs, etc. Write for Catalog of Tables, Chairs, Trucks.

Kitchen committees, social and recreational groups, you will be interested in this modern Folding Banquet Table. America's greatest line.

Monroe Co., 34 Church St., Colfax, Iowa

Exquisitely FINE ½ the usual COST of CHINA Bavarian CHINA

NOW! Superb, *Imported* ROYAL CASTLE Bavarian China *from our own Bavarian factory* at *amazing savings*. Six distinctive, charming patterns. All *Open Stock*—identical *replacements* available for a lifetime. Amazingly serviceable, too. Its loveliness and beauty last indefinitely. You can order 5-pc. place settings whenever desired, starting at less than $5. Before long you'll own a 53-pc. or 93-pc. Dinnerset.

Write for FREE COLORED PHOTOS and Detailed Descriptions with Prices

ROYAL CASTLE CHINA CORP., Box 183(HT), Madison Square Station, New York 10, N. Y.

If Your Child Is A Poor Reader

See how *The Sound Way To Easy Reading* can help him to read and spell better in a few weeks. New home-tutoring course *drills* your child in phonics with records and cards. Easy to use. University tests and parents' reports show children gain up to *full year's grade in 6 weeks!* Write for free illustrated folder and low price.

Bremner-Davis Phonics, Dept. S-7, Wilmette, Ill.

MONEY IN VALENTINES Send for Samples

Cash In On EVERY Occasion with MIDWEST Greeting Cards

Make bigger profits all year. Show friends fast-selling Valentines, Easter, Mother's, Father's Day Cards, plus best Birthday, Get-Well assortments, etc. 4 new Valentine packs. Secret Pal Cards, unusual new ideas, exceptional bargains in Cards, Notes, Gifts, Gadgets, Personalized Stationery. Profits to 100% on big line. Samples on approval. Write now.

Midwest Card Co., 1113 Washington, Dpt. 839H, St. Louis 1, Mo.

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Garlinghouse new plan books show hundreds of popular new plans from which to select your new home. All sizes and styles printed from actual photographs and colored drawings. Floor plan and accurate description included.

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3. **Homes in Brick.** Many of these 115 beautiful tested designs are in full color.....$1.00

Complete working plans, specifications, lumber and mill lists available for every design at LOW COST. These plan sets are your best investment since you know in advance what you are getting, thus avoiding misunderstandings. Order your books today.

All 3 books $1.50. All books mailed postpaid.

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BRAIDED RUG MATERIAL

EXTRA HEAVY • FINEST QUALITY 100% WOOL

LOW FACTORY-TO-YOU PRICES.
75c lb. (25 lbs. or over)
85c lb. for less than 25 lbs.
10c lb. extra for precut strips.
FREE SAMPLES and literature

Write to: BLOOMFIELD WOOLEN COMPANY Department BH155, BLOOMFIELD, IND.

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$100.00 A YEAR AUTOMATICALLY

with perpetual Date & Amount Bank. 25c a day automatically keeps Date right up-to-date. Also totals amount saved. Forces you to save a quarter every day or calendar date won't change. Use year after year. Start saving right away. Order several. Reg. $3.00. Now $1.98 each; 3 for $5.75 ppd. Mail cash, check or money order to

LEECRAFT, Dept. BG, 300 Albany Ave., Brooklyn 13, N. Y.

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January, 1956

BETTER HOMES & GARDENS GUARANTEES your money back or replacement if you buy any article of merchandise that is not as advertised therein

Guaranteeing products and services to be "as advertised" has been a continuing policy of *Better Homes & Gardens* since 1926.

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If it weren't for brand names

You'd have to be a jeweler to pick a good watch

In your jeweler's showcase stand row on row of beautiful watches.

As a customer, it's your job to get the most watch for your money.

How can you know you are right? On an important purchase like this, what gives you the courage to point at one and say, "I'll take this"? In fact—how can you be sure about anything you buy?

Isn't it because you follow the first rule of safe and sound buying:

A good brand is your best guarantee

No matter what kind of a product you want to buy, you know you can bank on a good brand. You know the company stands back of it because its reputation is at stake. You know, in short, that you are right.

To become an even better buyer, get to know more good brands. The pages of this magazine are a good guide. Let them help you cut down on your buying mistakes, get more for your shopping money.

BRAND NAMES FOUNDATION
Incorporated
A Non-Profit Educational Foundation
437 Fifth Ave., New York 16, N.Y.

A GOOD BRAND IS YOUR BEST GUARANTEE

Attention CONTEST ENTRANTS!

More valuable prizes (hundreds of them) offered to winners by these Better Homes & Gardens advertisers*

These fine prizes will be awarded to winners in Better Homes & Gardens 1956 Home Improvement Contest

• • • • • • • •

The Aluminum Cooking Utensil Co., Inc.
All Division Winners will be presented with a four piece *Anniversary Set of Hallite by Wear-Ever*. The three *Best-of-Contest Winners* will win an additional *Hallite Sauce Pot Brazier* and *Tea Kettle*.

American Kitchens
Division of AVCO Manufacturing Corporation
Kitchen-Utility Division Winners will be refunded the full purchase price of *American Kitchen Roto-Tray Dishwasher, Stack-on-Oven, Counter-top Range* and all other *American Kitchen* products if used in the winning project.

American-Standard
Plumbing & Heating Division
Best-of-Contest Winners will receive a cash refund equal to the retail cost of *American-Standard Bathroom, Kitchen* or *Heating products* or any combination of these products used in their winning entry.

Andersen-Corporation
Qualifying Winners in all divisions who use *Andersen Windows* in their home improvement project will receive a refund of the retail cost of those *Andersen* products used.

The Autoyre Company
Kitchen-Utility Qualifying Winners will be awarded an *Autoyre Master Bath Set* of 6 matching Lustre-Chrome Accessories.

The Black & Decker Manufacturing Co.
All Division Winners will win a $50.00 certificate that can be turned in at any *Black & Decker* dealer on any *Black & Decker* merchandise.

E. L. Bruce Company
All Division Winners will receive the refund price of any *Bruce Prefinished Floors* used in their home improvement project.

Cabin Crafts, Incorporated
Interior-Division Winners who use any *Cabin Crafts-Needletuft Carpeting, Rugs* and/or *Bedspreads* in their project will receive a full refund price of those products used.

The Celotex Corporation
Best-of-Contest Winners will receive a cash refund of these *Celotex Building Products* if used in their winning entries—*interior finishes, rock wool insulation, hardboard, sheathing, siding, asphalt shingles, gypsum wallboard, lath, floor underlayment, backer board* and *Cemesto*.

Congoleum-Nairn Inc.
All Division Winners will receive a refund of the purchase price or merchandise equivalent of any *Congoleum-Nairn Gold Seal Floor* and/or *Wall products* used.

Cribben & Sexton Company
Kitchen-Utility Division Winners whose winning project is a kitchen improvement and uses a 1956 *Universal Gas Range* will be refunded the product purchase price.

Crosley and Bendix
Home Appliances Division
AVCO Manufacturing Corporation
Kitchen-Utility Division Winners will receive a refund of the purchase price of any *Crosley* or *Bendix* products used in their prizewinning entry. Suitable evidence must be shown of purchase and use of *Crosley* or *Bendix* Home Appliance products in their projects.

Delta Power Tool
Division of Rockwell Manufacturing Co.
Best-of-Contest and Division Winners will receive a refund up to $300 of the cost of *Delta Tools* bought in 1956 and used in building your winning entry. Sales slip will be sufficient proof of 1956 purchase.

Edwards & Company, Inc.
Interior Qualifying and Division Winners will be presented with *Edwards Door Chimes*—Division Winners will receive a *Canterbury Chime* (C-62); Qualifying Winners will receive a choice of any one of these *Edwards Door Chimes, Bolero* (C-21 or C-20), *Minuet* (C-22 or C-23) or *Hideaway* (C-32).

Ekco Products Company
Best-of-Contest Winners will be presented with these *Ekco* products:
First Prize Winner—12-piece *Master Delux Flint-Ware* set.
Second Prize Winner- 11-piece *Flint-Ware Homemaker's* set.
Third Prize Winner- 9-piece *Flint-Ware Family* set.
Kitchen-Utility Division Winners will be presented with a 6-piece *Flint-Ware Starter* Set.

Eljer
Division of Murray Corporation of America
Division Winners in the Interior, Addition and Kitchen-Utility Divisions who use *Eljer Fixtures* in their winning project will receive a refund of the product costs of those *Eljer products* used (installation costs excluded). Winners must show suitable evidence of purchase price and use of *Eljer* products in their winning entries.

The Formica Company
Kitchen-Utility Division Winners using *Beauty Bonded Formica* in their winning entry will receive an additional $500 in prize money.

Frigidaire Appliances
Best-of-Contest Awards
If you win *1st prize*, product costs will be refunded on any or all of the following 1956 *Frigidaire* products purchased: *refrigerators, ranges, food freezers, washer* and *dryer, dishwasher, room air conditioner* or *central air conditioner* up to 5 tons.
If you win *2nd prize*, product costs will be reimbursed on any or all of the 1956 *Frigidaire* appliances purchased mentioned above for first prize winners except *washer* and *dryer* or a *Frigidaire air conditioner* up to 3 tons.
If you win *3rd prize*, product costs will be reimbursed on any or all of the following 1956 *Frigidaire* products purchased: *refrigerator, range, washer, or dryer* or a *central air conditioner* up to 2 tons.
Kitchen-Utility Division
If you win one of the next four prizes in the *Kitchen-Utility Division*, product costs will be refunded on any 1956 *Frigidaire refrigerator* or *range* purchased or *both* prizes awarded only for entries in a single contest category. Only one prize awarded per winner. Winners must produce satisfactory evidence of their product purchase and cost.

Frigidaire Residential Air Conditioning
Best-of-Contest Awards
First prize winner will be refunded the product costs on *Frigidaire Central Air Conditioner* unit up to 5 tons purchased in 1956. Installation costs are excluded in refund price.
Second prize winner will be reimbursed on the product costs on *Frigidaire* products as mentioned above up to a 3-ton unit.
Third prize winner will receive full refund on the *Frigidaire Central Air Conditioner* as above, but cannot exceed a 2-ton unit.
Winners must provide satisfactory evidence of their product purchase and cost excluding installation.

General Electric Company
Home Heating & Cooling Department
Qualifying Winners in the Interior Division will be awarded a 1956 *General Electric Electronic Air Cleaner* and $50.00 for installation (or the equivalent in cash) if *General Electric heating* and *air conditioning products* are used in their winning entries.

Georgia-Pacific Plywood Co.
Best-of-Contest Winners will receive a refund of the retail value if any of these *Georgia-Pacific Plywood* products are used in the winning entries—Georgia Pacific *Textured Wall Paneling;* Georgia Pacific *Striated Plywood;* Georgia Pacific *Hardwood Paneling* or *Savannah Oak Paneling;* or Georgia Pacific *Plastic-Faced Plywood*.

The Hobart Manufacturing Co.
Kitchen-Utility Division Winners will receive a refund of the purchase price of a *Kitchenaid Dishwasher* if it is used in their winning remodeling project. Suitable evidence must be shown of purchase and use of *Kitchenaid Dishwasher* in their winning project.

Hunter-Douglas Corporation
Best-of-Contest Winners and/or *All Division Winners* will receive $500 cash allowances if any of the following *Flexalum* products are used in their home improvement projects—*Twi-Nighter Venetian Blinds, Flexalum Draw Draperies* and/or *Flexalum Aluminum Awnings*.

Lennox Industries Inc.
Heating and Air Conditioning
To any of the 128 *Qualifying Winners* who have installed a *Lennox Heating* system during 1956, a central *Lennox Air Conditioning* unit will be awarded free. If both *Lennox Heating* and *Air Conditioning* have been installed by any one of the 128 Qualifying Winners during 1956, the cost for the air conditioning (equipment only) will be refunded.

National Chemical and Mfg. Co.
Qualifying Winners in all Divisions using *Luminall Paint* in their winning home improvement project will receive a refund of the purchase price of the *Luminall Paint* used.

Newcastle Products, Inc.
Qualifying Winners in the Interior, Additions and Kitchen-Utility Divisions will receive refund of the purchase price of any *Modernfold Doors* purchased in 1956 and used in their winning entries.

John Oster Manufacturing Co.
Addition Division Winners in Class "A" will receive a *Cummins Maxaw, No. 737, Portable Electric Saw*.
Kitchen-Utility Division Winners in Class "A" will receive a *Model No. 403 Chrome Deluxe Osterizer*.

The Reardon Company
All Division Winners who use either *Dramex Interior Finish, Ready Mixed Dramex, Bondex Cement Paint* or *Bondex Heavy Duty* in their winning entry will be refunded the full product purchase price. Winners must show suitable evidence of use of products mentioned.

The Regina Corporation
Interior-Division Winners will be presented with a *Regina Electrikbroom*. *Kitchen-Utility Division Winners* will be presented with a *Regina Twin-Brush Polisher* and *Scrubber*.

Reynolds Metals Company
Qualifying Winners in all Divisions will receive a refund of the retail price of any *Reynolds Do-It-Yourself Aluminum* used in their winning home improvement project.

Richmond Radiator Company
Interior and Addition Division Winners will be refunded the purchase price of any *Richmond Plumbing Fixtures* used in a prizewinning bathroom modernization project.

A. O. Smith Corporation
Permaglas Division
Qualifying winners in the Interior, Additions, and Kitchen-Utility Divisions will receive a refund equal to the purchase price of a *Permaglas Water Heater* if purchased in 1956 and used in the winning entries.

The Tappan Stove Company
Division Winners in any of the four Classes who purchase a *Tappan Range* in 1956, will be refunded the full purchase price of that range.

Thermador Electrical Manufacturing Company
Division of Norris-Thermador Corporation
Kitchen-Utility Division Winner in *Class "A"* whose winning entry is a kitchen project and who used a 1956 electric *Thermador Bilt-In Range* will receive the following *Thermador* electric products—"*Masterpiece*" *Bilt-In Oven, Bilt-In Cook Top with Griddle* and electric *Thermador Bilt-In Warming Drawer*. Winners must show suitable evidence of purchase and use of a *Thermador Bilt-In Range* in their project.

Universal-Rundle Corporation
Interior and Addition Division Winners will receive a cash refund of the purchase price for any *Universal-Rundle Plumbing Fixtures* used in a winning entry.

U. S. Plywood Corporation
All Division Winners will be reimbursed for the cost of *U. S. Plywood Weldwood* products used in their winning entry, plus an equivalent amount in cash. Winners must show suitable evidence that products used are *Weldwood*.

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IT'S EASY TO ENTER—just fill out your Preliminary Entry Form on page 53 in this issue (or pick one up at your dealers) and send to Better Homes & Gardens

*Where merchandise awards are offered, a validated sales slip or other suitable evidence will be required.

One entry form is all you need. Send in yours today!

Be sure to use the famous brands advertised in Better Homes & Gardens—you can win more prizes

THE MAN NEXT DOOR®

"Babies babble a lot, and on them it's cute," says neighbor Herb Leggett, a banker. "But so do economists. The latter are relying on the former to help keep our national economy in high gear. We only hope that the hungry darlings will get busy and nibble away on some of our agricultural surpluses."

+ + +

Sometimes I criticize my wife for extravagance. But in my calmer moments I realize that she never buys a cup of coffee for a dime then leaves a 25-cent tip because the waitress smiles prettily; never pays $3 for minnows hoping to get maybe one six-inch bass; never uses a dollar's worth of shotgun shells to get one quail.

+ + +

"No, I wouldn't exactly marry for money," admits the pretty young steno who lives in our block, "but I do want my husband to have a sweet disposition, and without money he might be worried and ill-natured."

+ + +

Intelligence is preferable to mere education. Intelligence will help you make a living for your family.

+ + +

Christine and I have just one New Year's resolution. That's to continue using our sense of humor in piloting the family through whatever stormy seas life may blow up.

+ + +

Fined my teen-ager 25 cents for neglecting to tidy up her room one morning before school, and she was sullen about it. Then she found my garage workbench in a gosh-awful mess, cleaned it up and billed *me* 25 cents, which I paid—sullenly.

As near as I can determine, our Rosie's fondest dream is to be swept off her feet by some powerful man whom she can dominate.

+ + +

Daughters should always brief their fathers carefully on their plans. When the new college-boy date called for our 16-year-old Rosemary, I chatted with him while she finished dressing and happened to mention that Mom and I had been married 17 years. At midnight she stormed into our bedroom to say she had already told him she was 18.

+ + +

When I consider the sustenance pattern in our home today, I marvel at how my mother was able to rear her big brood without peanut butter, icebox cookies, and frozen soups.

We had developed a definite if unspoken affection for our old saggy, but comfortable, living-room furniture. Aunt Opal presented us with a smart-looking modern chair, and it now looks like the matching replacements will cost me around $1,100.

+ + +

It seems to me that the Number One fallacy in many of our teen-agers' reasoning is this: "My parents brought me into the world. I had no choice, therefore I owe them nothing."

+ + +

Free advice to other husbands: Inasmuch as you wear the pants in your family, it is best to protect them with an apron when you wash the dishes.

+ + +

Experience is something I always think I have until I get more of it.

+ + +

After long study of myself and my fellow males, I conclude that man is an irrational creature who is always demanding home atmosphere in a hotel and hotel service in his home.

+ + +

Most of the older heads in our block were slightly indignant when that pretty young airline hostess said she and her pilot aimed to marry while flying over Niagara Falls, but Grandfather Hillis hushed us. "Getting married up in an airplane," ruled he, "is no more dangerous than it is on the ground."

+ + +

My Christine walked to neighbor Colleen O'Reilly's and stayed so long I asked her if somebody was sick over there. "No," she reported, "I just took over a plateful of cookies to exchange for an earful of gossip."

+ + +

It is now more than a decade since the atom bomb was going to destroy all of us any moment. True, it may yet, but I doubt it. Man has already demonstrated that anything he dreams of, he can achieve; and man is dreaming of peace.

+ + +

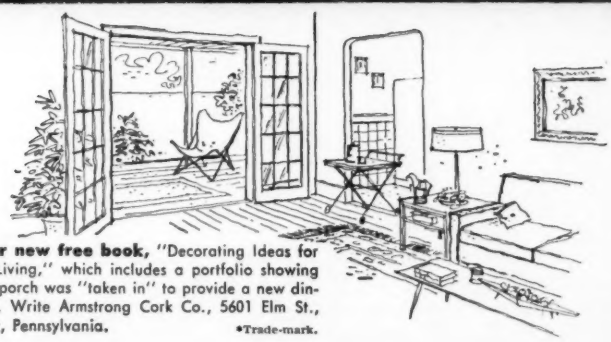
The family fellowship will glow through all of 1956 if you remember: that everything undergoes constant change, even tastes in "favorite" foods . . . that children are never tuned to send or receive the harsh waves of sarcasm . . . that the best expression of anger is silence, and the best expression of love is action . . . that in their hearts old people really want very little beyond a recognition of their importance . . . that ill temper is almost always due to fatigue or illness . . . that winter's chill need never penetrate the heart just because it seems to penetrate the rest of the body . . . that in home as well as community, live and let live is never as good as live and *help* live.

Burton Hillis

r is Armstrong Textelle* Linoleum, Style No. 1551.

he modern fashion in floors

u can almost always update your home with a little well-planned decorating d remodeling. For example, you can "take in" your porch, opening it up to add ra inside living space. Once this is done, it's easy to make the new area harmonize th the rest of your decorative scheme simply by running a floor of Armstrong oleum from room to room. This is one way to give your house that wonderful eling of spaciousness at reasonable cost. This floor also simplifies cleaning prob- ms. You get rid of miles of dust-catching cracks. You can clean the smooth surface of mstrong Linoleum quickly and effortlessly. Grease won't harm it. Crumbs, spilled ngs, and tracked-in dirt are easily wiped up. You'll like the bonus of easy care d lasting beauty you get with Armstrong Linoleum, the modern fashion in floors.



Send for new free book, "Decorating Ideas for Today's Living," which includes a portfolio showing how this porch was "taken in" to provide a new dining area. Write Armstrong Cork Co., 5601 Elm St., Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

*Trade-mark.

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Cooking champions say: "There never was anything like it before!"

Mrs. Oscar Vik of Onawa, Iowa, has won over 900 blue ribbons for cooking, more than 400 of them in the huge Iowa State Fair. She says, "Fluffo makes my cakes unbelievably high and light... and much more delicious! I count on Fluffo to help me win. My Fluffo Fudge Cake wins my *husband's* vote, too!"

"This fluffy-rich, golden-yellow shortening gives you a new kind of cakes!"

...better in every way than you could possibly make before!

Mrs. Vik adds: "The moment I scooped Fluffo out of my cup, I could see it would blend better...

"You can tell from the Fluffo batter that you'll get a better cake! It bakes up beautifully, so moist and rich—has a wonderful eating quality you just can't get when you use a *white* shortening... *It's Fluffo for me!*"

YOU'VE NEVER SEEN such cakes as you get when you use golden Fluffo! A really new *kind* of cakes . . . more luscious . . . *better in every way than you ever got with any other shortening!*

That's because Fluffo is a different *kind* of shortening. Even its *color* is different – rich golden-yellow. Fluffo is blended by Procter & Gamble from the finest shortening ingredients, by an exclusive fluffing process. It's the highest quality you can buy!

No wonder Mrs. Vik says, "I never got such handsome fluffy-light cakes before . . . the prize-winningest cakes I ever tasted!"

Needless to say, you'll never go back to white shortenings after you've tried golden Fluffo. You'll love Fluffo for *all* your baking and frying.

Costs no more than other leading shortenings. And, so digestible! Change to Fluffo today.

MRS. VIK'S CHAMPIONSHIP FUDGE CAKE

Try this cake on your hu band–it'll be his favorite, too! (NOTE: Use Fluffo in all recipes that call for s no need to change any measurement.)

2 cups sifted cake flour · 1⅔ cups sugar · 3 squares melted unsweetened chocolate · 1 tsp. salt · 1½ tsp. soda · ½ cup FLUFFO · 1⅓ cups milk (add ⅔ cup twice) · ½ tsp. double-acting baking powder · 3 eggs (⅔ cup) · 1 tsp. vanilla

Combine flour, sugar, salt, soda and baking powder in mixing bowl. Add Fluffo, melted chocolate and ⅔ cup milk. Beat vigorously by hand or mixer (medium speed) for 2 minutes, scraping bowl often. Add eggs, ⅔ cup milk and vanilla. Beat for 2 minutes. Pour into two 9" cake pans 1½" deep, rubbed with Fluffo or lined with paper. Bake 35-40 min. at 350°. Cool 10-15 min., remove from pans and cool on wire cake rack.

Luscious Fudge Frosting: Mix ⅓ cup Fluffo, 1 egg, 3 cups sifted confectioners' sugar and ¼ tsp. salt. Add 2½ squares melted unsweetened chocolate and beat thoroughly. Add 5 tbsp. cream or top milk, one at a time while beating, beat till smooth and good spreading consistency.

Mocha Icing: Add 1 tbsp. instant coffee, dissolved in cream.

Mint Icing: Add ⅛ to ¼ tsp. mint flavoring during final beating.

Procter & Gamble's new *kind* of shortening . . . GOLDEN **FLUFFO**

ALL-PURPOSE SHORTENING, NOT A TABLE SPREAD (Yellow from pure carotene)

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mixer
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